JOHN BULL.

"FOR GOD, THE SOVEREIGN, AND THE PEOPLE!"

Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper

VOL. LXV. No. 3,366. | SATURDAY, MAY 23, 1885. | PRICE 6D. By Post 6½D.

J. NISBET AND CO.'S LIST.

FOR WHITSUNTIDE.

"FILLED with the SPIRIT;" or, Scriptural Studies about the Holy Ghost. By the Rev. ERNEST BOYS, M.A., Author of "The Sure Foundation," &c. 16mo, 1s.

"Thoughtful readers will find in these addresses much that is suggestive and helpful. This little volume is certainly calculated to exercise a wide-spread influence for good."—Rock.

The SAINTLY CALLING. By the Rev. CHARLES D. BELL, D.D., Rector of Cheltenham, and Honorary Canon of Carlisle. Second Edition. Crown 8vo, 2s. 6d.

"This little volume contains a large instalment of sound, valuable, scriptural theology. It is a most seasonable and valuable contribution to the Church in these perilous times."—Record.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

LIVING TRUTHS for the HEAD and HEART. Crown 8vo, 2s. 6d.

"A very useful book to put into the hands of persons who need a compendium of Christian doctrine. Its tone is simple, earnest, and devout."—Church Bells.

SANCTIFICATION; or, the Highway of Holiness. An Abridgement in the Author's own words of the Gospel Mystery of Sanctification. By the Rev. WALTER MARSHALL. With an Introductory Note by A.M. Crown 8vo, 1s.

"One wonders how it is that unsound and shallow views have so widely prevailed while such solid and scriptural teaching has been before the Church so long. Certainly whoever reads it with attention cannot fail to draw profit and instruction from it."—Record.

ABIDE IN CHRIST. Thoughts on the Blessed Life of Fellowship with the Son of God. By the Rev. A. MURRAY. Thirty-third Thousand. Crown 8vo., 2s. 6d.

"A series of pious discources which develop parts of a very lovely subject. And they are very meritorious too. An unmistakeable tone of love and sincerity runs through them, and preserves them from unreality, even when they are most warm and impassioned. It is a pleasing and useful book of devotional reading."—Literary Churchman.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

LIKE CHRIST. Thoughts on the Blessed Life of Conformity to the Son of God. A sequel to "Abide in Christ." Thirteenth thousand. Crown 8vo, 2s. 6d.

"His book is one that deserves and will doubtless receive careful and attentive perusal. Even a hasty glance through its pages will show how much there is to help, to edify, and encourage the devout reader."—Record.

THE SPIRIT of JESUS. By the Rev. WIL- LIAM REID, M.A., Author of "The Blood of Jesus," &c. 16mo, 6d. paper cover; 9d. cloth.

EMBLEMS of the HOLY GHOST; or, the Teachings of Inspired Word—Parables concerning the Seed and River of Life. By the Rev. PHILIP NORTON, Curate of St. Nicholas, Worcester. Third Thousand. 16mo, 1s. 6d.

"Clear as crystal, fresh as a morning in spring, full of the savour of Jesus; this little book has fairly taken us captive."—Mr. Spurgeon in Sword and Trowel.

"We commend the book as one especially suitable for help in meditation during Whitsuntide. Preachers will find it a storehouse of suggestive hints."—Ecclesiastical Gazette.

By the Same Author. Just Published.

ETHICS of the HOLY GHOST; or, Bible Readings on the Fruit of the Spirit. With a Preface by the Rev. CHARLES BULLOCK, D.D. 16mo, 1s. 6d.

HIS PERSONAL PRESENCE; or, the Secret of a Bright and Fragrant Life. By the Rev. T. W. THOMAS, Curate of St. Giles', Norwich. Crown 8vo, 1s. 6d.

"This is a book of heart-experience. The work, in fact, is a history of spiritual religion, from its dawn in the soul till the inner light brightens into the eternal sunshine."—Family Churchman.

"A delightful and refreshing devotional treatise; Frances Ridley Havergal would have called it a treasure store of spiritual teaching. There are gems of thought on every page."—Fireside News.

BE PERFECT! A few Words to Christians on a Great Subject. By the Rev. GEORGE EVERARD, M.A. 32mo, 2d.

The Rev. Handley C. G. Moule, Ridley Hall, Cambridge, writes:—

"I have read 'Be Perfect' with the greatest thankfulness. You have admirably struck the truly golden mean, the mean of the Word of God, never letting the Christian dream that he is beyond the confession of sin, of trespasses, and never letting him forget that in union with his Lord he has a Divine power to draw upon for sustained spiritual victory."

HOUR by HOUR; or, the Christian's Daily Life. Compiled by E. A. L. Square 16mo, gilt edges, 2s. 6d.

A BACKWARD GLANCE on CHILDHOOD'S SCENES. By Mrs. RAYMOND WEST. 16mo, 1s. 6d.

"As pure, natural, and sparkling as a new fallen flake of snow. It has a measure of quiet interest all its own, which will secure it life and attention. The booklet is sweetly good. A sort of rhythm, a kind of delicious jangle of word-music rings through the artless narrative."—Sword and Trowel.

METAPHORS in the GOSPELS: A Series of Short Studies. By the Rev. DONALD FRASER, D.D., Author of "Synoptical Lectures on the Books of Holy Scripture." Crown 8vo, 6s.

"Dr. Fraser's words are well weighed, and are used with rigorous economy, and his opinions are obviously the fruit of much patient meditation, of varied experience, and of cultured observation."—Rock.

SAMUEL GOBAT, Bishop of Jerusalem: His Life and Work. A Biographical Sketch, drawn chiefly from his own Journals. By HIS SON. Translated and Edited by Mrs. PEREIRA. With portrait and illustrations, crown 8vo, 7s. 6d.

"As a memorial of a sincere and earnest worker, or as a record of missionary enterprise, the book ought to receive a welcome from every reader."—Yorkshire Post.

FURTHER RECOLLECTIONS of an INDIAN MISSIONARY. By the Rev. J. S. LEUPOLT. With Portrait and other illustrations. Crown 8vo, 5s.

"Mr. Leupolt's recollections are recorded in a truthful and manly form, and are well worthy of perusal, all the more so as they are mostly cast in a rather systematic form under different heads, including a short but deeply interesting chapter on the Indian Mutiny."—Church Bells.

MEMOIR of CAPTAIN PRESCOT WILLIAM STEPHENS, R.N., late of H.M.S. Thetis. By B. A. HEYWOOD, M.A., Author of "A Vacation Tour at the Antipodes." With Portrait and other Illustrations. Crown 8vo, 6s.

"A very interesting and edifying book, in which there is not a dry page."—Church Missionary Intelligencer.

JAMES NISBET and Co., 21, Berners-street, W.

VERE FOSTER'S NEW WATER-COLOUR BOOKS.

Just published, in 6 Parts, 4to, 1s. each; or in 1 vol., cloth, 7s. 6d.

ADVANCED STUDIES IN FLOWER-PAINTING.

By ADA HANBURY.

Twelve beautifully finished Examples in Colours, and numerous Outlines in Pencil.

With a Description of each Flower, and full Instructions for Drawing and Painting by

BLANCHE HANBURY.

RECENTLY PUBLISHED:

PAINTING for BEGINNERS. First Stage. Teaching the use of One Colour. Ten Facsimiles of Original Studies in Sepia, by J. CALLOW, and numerous Illustrations in Pencil, with easy Instructions. In 3 Parts, 4to, 6d. each; or one vol., cloth, 2s. 6d.

PAINTING for BEGINNERS. Second Stage. Teaching the Use of Seven Colours. Twenty Facsimiles of Original Water-Colour Drawings, by J. CALLOW, and many Illustrations in Pencil, with easy Instructions. In 6 Parts, 6d. each; or one vol. cloth, 4s.

SIMPLE LESSONS in FLOWER PAINT- ING. Eight Facsimiles of Original Water-Colour Drawings, and numerous Outline Drawings of Flowers, after various Artists. With full Instructions. In 4 Parts, 4to, 6d. each; or 1 vol., cloth, 3s.

SIMPLE LESSONS in LANDSCAPE PAINT- ING. Eight Facsimiles of Original Water-Colour Drawings, and 30 Vignettes, after various Artists. With full Instructions. In 4 Parts, 4to, 6d. each; or 1 vol., cloth, 3s.

SIMPLE LESSONS in MARINE PAINTING. Twelve Facsimiles of Original Water-Colour Sketches. By EDWARD DUNCAN. With numerous Illustrations in Pencil, and Practical Instructions. In 4 Parts, 4to, 6d. each; or 1 vol., cloth, 2s.

STUDIES of TREES, in Pencil and in Water- Colours. By J. NEEDHAM. Eighteen Examples in Colours, and 23 Drawings in Pencil. With Descriptions of the Trees, and Full Instructions. In 3 Parts, 4to, 1s. each; or First Series, cloth, 5s.; Second Series, cloth, 5s.

EASY STUDIES in WATER-COLOUR PAINTING. By R. P. LEITCH and J. CALLOW. Nine Plates, executed in Neutral Tints. With full Instructions for Drawing each Subject, and for Sketching from Nature. In 3 Parts, 4to, 1s. 6d. each; or 1 vol., cloth, 6s.

SKETCHES in WATER-COLOURS. By T. M. RICHARDSON, R. P. LEITCH, J. A. HOUSTON, T. L. ROWBOTHAM, E. DUNCAN, and J. NEEDHAM. Nine Plates executed in Colours. With full Instructions for Drawing each Subject. In 3 Parts, 4to, 1s. 6d. each; or 1 vol., cloth, 6s.

London: BLACKIE and SON, 49 and 50, Old Bailey.

APPEAL

FOR THE

UPPER OTTAWA & NIPISSING MISSION, CANADA.

The above is the name of a large recently started Mission, in a northern district of the diocese of Ontario. The Mission comprises eight townships in Renfrew County, Clara, together with a large unorganised district, which extends west to the eastern boundary of Algoma diocese, in all 140 miles in length. This district, Nipissing, is not a part of the Mission as originally created, nor is it, indeed, a part of the Ontario diocese proper, being unorganised and in a great measure unsurveyed territory, and not included in the boundaries of any diocese, but its situation is such and a portion of it extending east some sixty miles, gore shape, into Renfrew County, that its settled parts can more advantageously be worked in connection with this than with any other diocese. The request to work it as a part of the Mission was denied for some time, until the petitions for services became so numerous and urgent, that, finally, the missionary, the Rev. Foster Bliss, with the Bishop's consent, undertook charge of the entire district, and has now organised congregations at several points, going as far west as within thirty miles of the north-eastern boundary of Algoma.

Mr. Bliss earnestly appeals for £500 to enable him to meet the pressing wants of this great district. At present there are only three churches, and these are forty, sixty, and eighty miles apart. The £500 is needed to complete these churches and to build at least two new ones this summer.

In a letter lately received Mr. Bliss says:—"It was with considerable reluctance that I determined to avail myself of assistance from the motherland. I feel we should be able to do all this (church-building, etc.) ourselves, but we cannot yet. This is an immense tract of land, and it is settling fast, but settlers are poor; they help all they possibly can. Many of the people at the out-stations would cheerfully travel fifteen or twenty miles to the nearest church if there were any roads, but there are none. A bridle path through the bush, or a canoe on the river, are the only means of travel apart from the railway, which is not of any use on Sunday."

Mr. Bliss has been urged to come to England himself to raise funds for the work; but this, he says, is quite impossible; and surely we Christian people in England can raise £500 without bringing this hard-worked Missionary over from America to beg for it. Will any, in thanksgiving for the great privileges they enjoy in Old England, give liberally to extend these privileges to their far-off brethren? The churches thus raised by willing hearts at home will stand before those brethren as a witness to the fact that these members of our Holy Church are as loving and as thoughful as of old, when "the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto their brethren—which also they did."

The following is the Bishop's commendation of the work:—

"I heartily commend the appeal of the Rev. F. Bliss to the kind consideration of Churchmen. The work he has undertaken is arduous in the extreme, but very necessary if the Church is to follow her members with the ministrations of the Gospel into the new and ever-growing settlements of the West. He is engaged in the difficult but necessary work of building new churches in his Mission. I heartily commend his efforts, and pray that he may be successful in raising the necessary funds." (Signed) "J. T. ONTARIO."

Miss Margaret Fleming, S. Edmund's House, Hunstanton, will acknowledge and transmit to Mr. Bliss all CONTRIBUTIONS, and will also be glad to give any further information about the Mission.

Cheques may be made payable to M. Fleming, crossed "Gurney, Cresswell, Birkbeck, and Co.," King's Lynn, Norfolk. P.O.O. should be made payable to M. Fleming, Hunstanton.

THE

GRESHAM LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

ST. MILDRED'S HOUSE, POULTRY, LONDON, E.C.

FUNDS.

REALISED ASSETS (1884)	£3,491,376
LIFE ASSURANCE AND ANNUITY FUNDS ...	3,391,789
ANNUAL INCOME	685,379

The Directors are prepared to receive from Local Boards and Corporations applications for Loans upon rates. The Society also grants Loans upon security of Freehold, Copyhold, and Leasehold Property, Life Interests and Reversions.

Prospectus, Reports, and Proposal Forms on application to the Society's Agents and Branch Offices, or to

JOSEPH ALLEN, Secretary.

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1845.

THE LATEST ADVANCE IN LIFE INSURANCE.

NON-FORFEITING LIMITED TONTINE POLICIES.—These Policies combine the Non-Forfeiture features originated by the NEW YORK LIFE in 1860, with the Privileges and profits of its popular "Tontine Investment Policy." TONTINE INVESTMENT POLICIES are also issued.

Special advantages to intending purchasers of ANNUITIES, which are granted on more favourable terms than those of British Offices.

LIFE ASSURANCE ONLY. PURELY MUTUAL.

All Profits belong to Policy Holders, and Apportionments are made Annually.

Accumulated Funds	**£12,127,930**
Annual Income (1884)	**£2,846,245**

CHIEF OFFICE FOR GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND:

76 and 77, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

J. FISHER SMITH, General Manager.

Send for Prospectus and Book of ACTUAL RESULTS of Tontine Investment Policies matured in Great Britain.

Demy 8vo, sewed, price Sixpence.

EQUALITY in CHRISTIAN WORSHIP:

A CHARGE

delivered at the Visitation of the Diocese of Carlisle, May, 1885,

By C. J. BURTON, M.A., Chancellor.

London: PARKER and CO., 6, Southampton-street, Strand.

Carlisle: CHAS. THURNAM and SONS.

4th Edition, 1s.

BATTLE OF THE STANDARD,

A LEGEND OF LOVE AND WAR.

"Picturesque and interesting."—Saturday Review.

"A fine record of gallant deeds."—Standard.

"A stirring story admirably told."—Morning Post.

RYDAL and CO., Paternoster-row.

105,000 ACCIDENTS

FOR WHICH

TWO MILLIONS

HAVE BEEN PAID AS

COMPENSATION

BY THE

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY,

64, CORNHILL.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS.

Paid-up and Invested Funds, £260,000.

Premium Income £235,000.

CHAIRMAN — HARVIE M. FARQUHAR, Esq.

Apply to the Clerks at the Railway Stations, the Local Agents Or West End Office:—8, Grand Hotel Buildings, Charing Cross; or at the

HEAD OFFICE:—64, CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C.

WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

PHŒNIX FIRE OFFICE,

LOMBARD ST. AND CHARING CROSS, LONDON.

Established 1782.

Insurances against Loss By Fire and Lightning effected in all parts of the World.

Loss claims arranged with promptitude and liberality.

WILLIAM C. MACDONALD } Joint
FRANCIS B. MACDONALD } Secretaries.

QUEEN INSURANCE COMPANY.

CHIEF OFFICES:
QUEEN INSURANCE BUILDINGS, LIVERPOOL,
AND
60, GRACECHURCH-STREET, LONDON.

TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The Report and Accounts for the year 1884, presented to the Shareholders at the Annual Meeting, on Thursday, 7th May, 1885, showed in the

FIRE BRANCH,

that the premiums of 1884, after deducting Re-insurances, amounted to £565,883, and the losses to £388,926;

IN THE LIFE BRANCH,

that new policies had been issued for £272,777, yielding in premiums £10,002, being largest new premium income in the experience of the Company;

That the Life Fund was increased by £46,994, being 61·9 per cent. of the premiums received for the year.

The balance at credit of Profit and Loss, amounting to £60,271 8s. 1d., was disposed of as follows:—

£13,003	10 0	For Dividend, and
47,267	18 1	Carried Forward.

THE FUNDS

Were shown thereafter to stand as follows:—

Capital Paid-up	£180,035
Reserves	345,566
Life Accumulation Fund	437,024
Annuity Fund	16,816
TOTAL FUNDS IN HAND	£1,114,291

The Auditors' Report, dated 29th April, 1885, stated:—

"We have examined the Books of the Queen Insurance Company, with the vouchers and securities, including the certificates sent home from the American and Australian branches for their investments. We have also examined the Audited Balance Sheets of the Foreign Branches, and we certify that the combined Balance Sheet exhibits a full and accurate view of the Company's position on the 31st December, 1884, as shown by the Books.

"The present aggregate market value of the Securities is largly in excess of the cost appearing in the Balance Sheet."

HARMOOD, BANNER and SON,
Chartered Accountants.

The Income of the Company is now £690,632
The Company has paid in satisfaction of Claims 5,314,797

J. MONCRIEFF WILSON, General Manager.
T. WALTON THOMSON, Sub-Manager.
J. K. RUMFORD, Secretary in London.

Active and Influential Agents wanted,

WANTED.

SPECIAL PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

Advertisements of Clerical, Educational, and Domestic Wants and Vacancies will be received for insertion in this Column at the uniform charge of 2s. for 40 words, and 6d. for every additional ten words. Prepayment must in all cases be made, in stamps under 5s., above that by P.O.O. payable at FLEET STREET Money Order Office.

SERMONS COPIED in MS. for the Clergy by Advertiser, who has access to ALL published Sermons, viz., Blunt, Vaughan, Melville, Keble, &c. (and all the leading preachers), price 1s. 6d. each. Address M.A., 24, Sistova Road, Balham.

TITLE WANTED, for September. Diocese of Worcester preferred. Country. High. Single. Graduate.—Cantab, 4, Darlington-place, Bath.

A CURATE, or Temporary Help, REQUIRED, for northern sea-side parish, healthy and attractive. £135 and furnished, or £150 and unfurnished, small House.—Vicar, Embleton, Chathill, Northumberland

CURATE WANTED. Suburban parish. Mission district. Graduate. Musical. E.P. Daily service. Deacon (Title for September). £120; to a thoroughly experienced, unmarried Priest, £130.—Rev. F. C. Kilner, St. Martin's, Potternewton, Leeds.

CURATE WANTED. Graduate, Priest, single, expd. Good preacher. No extremes. Stipend equal to £200 a year. Address the Rector, Warrington.

L. T. WANTED, for June, in return for hospitality. Rural parish, N. Lancashire. Lovely country. Address Vicar, Shireshead, Garstang.

CURACY WANTED, in June, by Priest; twenty-six; Highbury; Evangelical; experienced; abstainer; married; bracing locality; good stipend; excellent testimonials. Address Curate, St. Hilary, Hastings.

CURACY WANTED. Priest. Moderate views; hard worker; good preacher; strong, clear voice; musical. Temporary engagement not objected to. R.M., 3, Wellington-road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

TUTORSHIP WANTED, by Cambridge Undergrad. July and August. Classics, el. math., el. French. Small stipend.—Remex, Corpus College, Cambridge.

WANTED, in a Clergyman's family, an experienced GOVERNESS (age under thirty-five) for three girls, eldest fourteen. Thorough English, French, and German, and very good music. French Protestant preferred. Salary £80.—Mrs. Irving, Millom V., Broughton-in-Furness.

WANTED, GOVERNESS. Country. Four girls under twelve. English, French, good music, drawing, sewing. Nurse kept.—Mrs. Bolderston, Helsby, Cheshire.

CAN any Lady recommend French Protestant or Swiss MAID for two girls in schoolroom? Good dressmaker. Upper-maid kept. State wages.—Lady M. Russell, Chalfont S. Peter, Slough.

A GENTLEMAN recommends a steady, respectable Young Man as CARRIAGE GROOM. Twenty. Abstainer. Three and a half years' character. Address J. H., Rev. G. E. Prescott, Digswell Rectory, Welwyn.

BRAND and CO.'S OWN SAUCE.

SOUPS, PRESERVED PROVISIONS.

POTTED MEATS and YORK and GAME PIES; also

ESSENCE of BEEF, BEEF TEA,

TURTLE SOUP, and JELLY, and other

SPECIALITIES for INVALIDS.

CAUTION: BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

SOLE ADDRESS

11, LITTLE STANHOPE STREET MAYFAIR, W.

LONDON THEATRES, &c.

DRURY LANE THEATRE. — This Evening, at 8.0, MANON.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—This Evening, at 8.20, OURS.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—This Evening, at 7.45, THE BELLS.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—This Evening, at 7.30, THE LIGHTS O' LONDON.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—This Evening, at 7.45, THE LAST CHANCE.

STRAND THEATRE. — This Evening at 8, THE SUNNY SIDE and A WIDOW HUNT.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, Strand.—This Evening, at 8.15, OPEN HOUSE.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, A QUIET RUBBER and THE QUEEN'S SHILLING.

GLOBE THEATRE.—This Evening, at 9, THE PRIVATE SECRETARY. At 8, A BAD PENNY.

COURT THEATRE. — This Evening, at 8.15, THE MAGISTRATE.

COMEDY THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, MARY'S HOLIDAY; 8.45, BAD BOYS.

SAVOY THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8.15, THE MIKADO: or, THE TOWN OF TITIPU.

ART FURNITURE.
ADAMS' DESIGNS.
CHIPPENDALE.

MAPLE & CO.

Tottenham Court Road.

TURKEY CARPETS.
INDIAN CARPETS.
PERSIAN CARPETS.

MAPLE and CO., Upholsterers by special appointment to Her Majesty.—The largest FURNISHING ESTABLISHMENT in the world. Acres of show rooms for the display of every possible description of household requisites.

MAPLE and CO., Timber Merchants and direct Importers of the finest Woods to be found in Africa, Asia, and America, and Manufacturers of Cabinet Furniture in various woods by steam power.

MAPLE and CO.'S NEW SHOW ROOMS.

MAPLE and CO.—The Specimen Rooms are good examples of high-class DECORATIVE FURNISHING, carried out in perfect taste, without extravagant expenditure. Everyone one about to furnish, or re-arrange their residences, would derive information by an inspection.

MAPLE and CO.—BEDROOM SUITES.

MAPLE and CO.—BEDROOM SUITES. 500 suites, of various woods, in showrooms to select from. Some new designs in solid woods. Price £8 10s. to 50 guineas.

MAPLE and CO.—CURTAINS.

COLOURED TRANSPARENT CURTAINS.

CURTAINS.—MAPLE and CO. are now SHOWING their SPRING NOVELTIES in Crete, Cyprus, Madras, and Tabretz MUSLINS. Many of these are quite unique in arrangement of colouring and design, some being copies of ancient Eastern embroideries, others with borderings representing tapestry designs; but the variety of these lovely fabrics is so large, that it is simply impossible to give details. Prices from so low as 14s. 9d. per pair. An early inspection is invited.

MAPLE and CO.—EMBROIDERIES.

EMBROIDERIES.—MAPLE and CO. have a most wonderful Variety of EMBROIDERIES collected from the Palaces, Mosques, and Harems of the East. Many are suitable for portières, panels, altar decorations, screens, cushions, brackets, or antimaccassars. Prices for the latter range from 1s. to 10s. 9d. each. Amongst the collection are some very rare and curious specimens, such as are sought after and greatly prized by connoisseurs.

MAPLE and CO.—CURTAINS.

ENGLISH LACE CURTAINS.

CURTAINS.—MAPLE and CO.—English and French Lace Curtains, selected direct from the first manufacturers, and comprising an almost unlimited variety of new and elegant styles, many being copies of the higher classes in real lace, a novelty being some embroidered or corded. Prices for Curtains three yards long range from 2s. 11d. to 7s. 6d.; 3½ yards, 4s. 6d. to 12s. 9d.; four yards, 6s. 11d. to 35s. per pair.

MAPLE and CO.—The Largest Furnishing Establishment in the world. Acres of Show-rooms, and Novelties every day from all parts of the globe.—Tottenham-court-road, London, and Boulevard de Strasbourg, Paris.

TURKEY CARPETS.—MAPLE and CO. have just received large consignments of fine TURKEY CARPETS, unique colourings, reproductions of the 17th century, being the first delivery of those made from this season's clip.—MAPLE and CO., London, and 17 and 18, Local Baron Aliotti, Smyrna.

TURKEY CARPETS.—These special carpets are exceptionally fine, both in colour and quality, while the prices are lower than ever known before. Appended are a few examples of useful sizes, with prices. The trade supplied :—

11ft. 4in.	by 8ft. 3in.	... ...	£6	10 0
12ft. 0in.	by 10ft. 6in.	... ...	7	15 0
13ft. 0in.	by 11ft. 9in.	... ...	8	10 0
14ft. 9in.	by 11ft. 0in.	... ...	9	15 0
15ft. 0in.	by 11ft. 10in.	... ...	11	15 0

INDIAN CARPETS, five thousand to select from :—

12ft. 6in.	by 8ft. 6in.	.. .. ..	£6	0 0
12ft. 0in.	by 9ft. 3in.	.. .. ..	7	0 0
13ft. 3in.	by 8ft. 3in.	.. .. ..	8	0 0
13ft. 3in.	by 9ft. 3in.	.. .. ..	8	5 0

MAPLE and CO., Tottenham-court-road, London.

PERSIAN CARPETS, extra qualities :—

10ft. 3in.	by 7ft. 4in.	.. .. ..	£6	15 0
14ft. 2in.	by 9ft. 6in.	.. ..	10	10 0
14ft. 7in.	by 10ft. 9in.	.. ..	11	10 0
12ft. 4in.	by 11ft. 11in.	.. ..	14	10 0

MAPLE and CO., Tottenham-court-road, London.

MAPLE and CO.—A manufacturer's stock of stout BRUSSELS CARPETS, at 2s. 11d. per yard, usually sold at 3s. 3d.; best quality Tapestry Brussels (but old patterns), at 1s. 10d. and 2s. per yard; stout Tapestry Carpet, 1s. 3½d per yard. 3,000 carpets, a great variety of patterns, in all sizes, ready made up, in stock, which can be laid same day as ordered.

DECORATIONS, Artistic Wall Papers.—Messrs. MAPLE and CO. undertake every description of ARTISTIC HOUSE DECORATION, including gasfitting, repairs, parquet work, &c. The head of this department is a thoroughly qualified architect, assisted by a large staff of artists and skilled workmen. Coloured drawings and estimates furnished.

MAPLE and CO.'S FURNISHING ESTABLISHMENT, the largest in the world. Acres of show rooms, for the display of first-class furniture, ready for immediate delivery. Novelties every day from all parts of the globe. No family ought to furnish before viewing this collection of household requisites, it being one of the sights in London. To export merchants an unusual advantage is offered. Having large space, all goods are packed on the premises by experienced packers.—MAPLE and CO., 145 to 149, Tottenham-court-road, London.

POSTAL ORDER DEPARTMENT.—Messrs. MAPLE and Co. beg respectfully to state that this Department is now so organised that they are fully prepared to execute and supply any article that can possibly be required in furnishing at the same price, if not less, than any other house in England. Patterns sent, and quotations given free of charge.

THE LARGEST FURNISHING ESTABLISHMENT in the WORLD.

MAPLE and CO.
ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE FREE.

BARNARD'S

PATENT FOLDING HAMMOCK BASSINETTE AND BASKET.

These are the only Bassinettes awarded the Grand Medals, Diplomas of Honour, Prizes, and Honourable Mentions over all others at the Great Exhibition in Paris, 1878; Philadelphia, 1876; Vienna, 1873, in Two Groups; Alexandra Palace in 1875; Manchester, 1880, for their Practical Utility, Comfort, Convenience, Safety, Beauty, and Portability.

Price, prettily trimmed in Chintz, from £2 2s.; ditto, ditto, with Muslin and Lace, from £2 12s. 6d. Baskets to match from 18s. 9d. As a protection against unprincipled imitators, intending Purchasers should send for Illustrated Price List of the sole Inventor, Patentee and Manufacturer—

BRADLY BARNARD, 107, ST. PAUL'S ROAD, HIGHBURY, LONDON, N.

FISHING BOOTS, FISHING STOCKINGS, FISHING BROGUES,

VENTILATING WATERPROOF COATS,

AND EVERY WATERPROOF REQUISITE FOR THE ANGLER.

J. C. CORDING AND CO., ONLY ADDRESS— 19, PICCADILLY, Corner of AIR STREET.

Possessing all the Properties of the Finest Arrowroot,

BROWN & POLSON'S CORN FLOUR

IS A HOUSEHOLD REQUISITE OF CONSTANT UTILITY,

For the Nursery, the Family Table, and the Sick Room.

NOTE.—Unlike many others, this Corn Flour bears the Name of its Manufacturers, who offer the guarantee of their long-established reputation for its uniformly superior quality.

FRY'S COCOA

GOLD MEDAL, Calcutta Exhibition, 1884.

FRY'S CARACAS COCOA

"A most delicious and valuable article."—*Standard.*

PURE COCOA ONLY.

FRY'S COCOA EXTRACT

"Strictly pure, easily assimilated."—W. W. STODDART, Analyst for Bristol.

TWENTY PRIZE MEDALS.

WHELPTON'S VEGETABLE PURIFYING PILLS are warranted not to contain a single particle of Mercury or any other Mineral Substance, but to consist entirely of Medicinal Matters, purely Vegetable. For nearly FIFTY years they have proved their value in thousands of instances, in Diseases of the Head, Chest, Bowels, Liver, and Kidneys; and in all Skin Complaints are one of the best Medicines known.—Sold in boxes, price 7½d., 1s. 1½d., and 2s. 9d. each, by G. WHELPTON and SON, 3, Crane-court, Fleet-street, London, and by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors. Sent free per post on receipt of 8, 14, or 33 stamps

BLAIR'S GOUT PILLS.

THE GREAT REMEDY FOR GOUT and RHEUMATISM.

The excruciating pain is quickly relieved and cured in a few days by this celebrated Medicine.

These Pills require no restraint of diet during their use, and are certain to prevent the disease attacking any vital part.

Sold by all Chemists at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. per box.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS & OINTMENT.—The great vicissitudes of temperature try the respiratory channels terribly—hence arise hoarseness, quinsies, loss of voice, bronchitis, and the whole train and endless variety of throat and chest affections which now prevail. Neglect of these in their early stages is almost criminal, as many a life might have been saved by early and prompt treatment, by means of Holloway's well-known remedies. This treatment can be readily and easily carried out, and soon disposes of the attack in a most satisfactory manner, by restoring the balance between the circulation and respiration, by lessening the inflammation, abating the febrile symptoms, and by soothing the irritability of the nerves.

ROBINSON AND CLEAVER, BELFAST,

Manufacturers by Special Appointments to H.M. the Queen and H.I. and R.H. the Crown Princess of Germany.

IRISH LINEN "Their Irish Linen Collars, Cuffs, Shirts, &c., have the merits of excellence and cheapness."—Court Circular.

COLLARS, Ladies' and Children's three-fold, 3s. 6d. per doz.; Gents' four-fold, 4s. 11d. to 5s. 11d. per doz.

CUFFS, For Ladies, Gentlemen and Children, 5s. 11d to 10s. 9d. per doz.

Best Quality Longcloth Bodies, with four-fold all linen fronts and cuffs, 35s. 6d. the half dozen (to measure, 2s. extra). New designs in our Special Indiana Gauze and Printed Shirtings and Unshrinkable Flannels for the season. **AND SHIRTS.**

IRISH Real Irish Linen Sheeting, fully bleached, yards wide, 1s. 11d. per yard; 2¾ yards wide, 2s. 4½d. per yard (the most durable article made, and far superior to any Foreign manufactured goods). Roller Towelling, 18in. wide, 3½d. per yard.

Surplice Linen, 8½d. per yard. **LINENS,** Linen Dusters, 3s. 3d.; Glass Cloths, 4s. 6d. per doz. Fine Linens & Linen Diaper, 10d. per yard.

Fish Napkins, 2s. 11d. per doz. Dinner Napkins, 5s. 6d per doz. Table Cloths, 2 yds. square, 2s. 11d.; 2½ yds. by 3 yds., 5s. 11d. each. Kitchen Table Cloths, 11½d. each. Strong Huckaback Towels, 4s. 6d. per doz. Monograms, Crests, Coats of Arms, Initials, &c., woven and embroidered. **AND DAMASKS.**

CAMBRIC Children's, Hemmed for use 1s. 5d. per doz.
Ladies', do. do. 2s. 6d. "
Gentlemen's, do. do. 3s. 8d. "

ALL PURE FLAX. **POCKET** HEMSTITCHED.

		per doz
Ladies'	.. ..	3s. 11d.
Gents'	.. ..	6s. 9d

"The Irish Cambrics of Messrs. ROBINSON & CLEAVER have a world-wide fame."—The Queen. **HANDKERCHIEFS.**

IRISH Collars, Sets, and Trimming Laces, in Crochet, Guipure, Appliqué, Point, and Limerick, at lowest wholesale prices. (Illustrated Lists post free.) **LACE.**

IRISH Ladies should write for our New Illustrated Sheets. Real Irish and Madeira Embroidery. Also Machine Work: all Buttoned edges, on best cloth, from 2½d. per yard. **EMBROIDERY**

IRISH LINEN Chemises, trimmed Embroidery, 5s. 6d.; Night Dresses, 8s. 6d.; Combinations, 6s. 11d.

Baby Linen, Dress Materials, Flannels, Blankets, Hosiery, Gloves, Undervests, Pants, Calicoes; also Lace and Linen Curtains, and Lace Goods of every description. **UNDERCLOTHING.** (Price Lists post free.)

SHETLAND WOOL "The Marvel," White, two yards square, post free 1s. 8d. each.

Pale Blue, Black, Cardinal, Pink or Grey, 1s. 10d. Write for Illustrated Sheets showing all qualities. **SHAWLS.**

ROBINSON AND CLEAVER, Belfast. SAMPLES POST FREE. GOODS SHIPPED DIRECT TO ANY PART OF THE WORLD.

CARSONS' PAINT,

PATRONISED BY HER MAJESTY, H.R.H., THE PRINCE OF WALES,

15,000 of the Nobility, Gentry, and Clergy.

Is extensively used for all kinds of

OUTDOOR WORK,

Standing extremes of

HEAT AND COLD.

CAN BE LAID ON BY UNSKILLED LABOUR.

1 CWT., and Oil Mixture, Free to all Stations.

Sold in all Colours.

PRICES, PATTERNS, AND TESTIMONIALS POST FREE.

CARSONS,

LA BELLE SAUVAGE YARD,

LUDGATE HILL, LONDON, E.C.;

AND

BACHELOR'S WALK, DUBLIN,

DISCOUNT FOR CASH.

NO AGENTS.

J. Wippell and Compy.

MANUFACTURERS OF

CHURCH FURNITURE AND CLERICAL OUTFITTERS.

EXETER: High Street and Cathedral Yard.
LONDON: 44, Charing Cross.

THE Rev. WALTER HILL, M.A. Oxon, Vicar of Medmenham, Bucks, receives PUPILS for the Universities, Woolwich, &c., &c., and is assisted by H. H. ROSE, M.A., Esq., Fourteenth Wrangler and late Head Math. Master of Wimbledon School, who resides, and gives all his attention to the work of tuition.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—In the Chamber of Deputies on Saturday, M. Clovis Hugues submitted his proposal for granting an amnesty to persons who had been prosecuted or condemned for certain political crimes or offences. M. Allain Targé, the Minister of the Interior, opposed a general amnesty, but said that the Government were ready to grant pardon in individual cases. M. Clovis Hugues' proposal was ultimately rejected by 278 votes against 122 votes.

In Paris on Wednesday the Committee of Initiative refused, by 11 against 9 votes, to consider the proposal submitted to it by MM. Laisant and Delafosse for the impeachment of the late Ferry Ministry.

The medical attendants of Victor Hugo issued a bulletin on Thursday morning, in which they stated that his condition was disquieting. In the afternoon he had an alarming fainting fit, succeeded by lethargy of considerable duration. Shortly before midnight M. Lockroy, his son-in-law, stated that there were evidences of increased weakness.

GERMANY.—A destructive fire broke out on Wednesday night in the little Monbijou Palace, Berlin, immediately over the east wing, containing the Hohenzollern Museum, which comprises an unrivalled collection of antiquities, relics, curiosities, and memorials of the Royal family from the great Elector down to the present Emperor. Thanks to the extraordinary exertions of a strong force of firemen and soldiers, the fire remained confined to the roof and garrets, which were completely destroyed, while the Museum altogether escaped, except some damage by water. The English chapel, situated in another wing of the château, and the new English church now in course of erection in Monbijou Park, were not reached by the fire.

RUSSIA.—The Emperor has addressed an autograph letter to General Komaroff, accompanying the gift of a gold sword of honour, the hilt and scabbard of which are set with diamonds. His Majesty warmly acknowledges what the letter describes as the General's excellent military measures while commanding the detachment on the Murghab, the prudence and firmness with which he dealt with the Afghans, and the gallantry which he displayed during the engagement at Dash Kepri. The Emperor has also conferred a gold sword of honour upon Colonel Zakrejevski as a reward for bravery.

In a letter of the 9th ult. from Tirpul the *Standard* correspondent discusses the results of the affair at Pul-i-Khisti :—

"The excellent discipline amongst the Russians much impressed those who were present. The Afghans are furious—they charge us with having deceived and betrayed them. The Russian attack appears to have been intended merely to sustain Russian *prestige*—to prove to the Afghans the power of Russian troops, and for the purpose of further impressing the Turcoman with the invincibility of the Russian arms. The ultimatum sent by Komaroff to the Afghans was offensively, tauntingly discourteous. Whatever the result may be of this conflict, it is very manifest that the presence of British officers at Penjdeh, acting practically on behalf of the Afghans, and yet not able to assist the Afghans while they were being driven away and routed by Russian troops, has been a mistake and a fatal injury to our *prestige*. Previously to the 29th, Alikhanoff endeavoured covertly to induce the Afghans to retire. Alikhanoff had ridden through the Afghan outposts; Ghaus-i-dun pursued him. Coming up with him, a stormy meeting took place, which nearly ended in a fight, strong words were exchanged, and finally Ghaus-i-dun reproached Alikhanoff with being a renegade. When once the Russians had approached the Afghans, a conflict was only a matter of time. The activity of Alikhanoff, his attempt to pass the outposts, the suspicion of the devices he was resorting to to influence the Sariks, and even the Afghan soldiery—all this was irritating to the Afghan chiefs, and did not tend to make the relations between the Afghans and the Russians more cordial. The British officers did not leave before twelve in the day. The Sariks as a body appear to have shown consideration and some commiseration for the position of our officers. The chiefs, when the conflict was over, assembled and advised the British officers to leave for their own safety, and they were escorted by the Sariks beyond Penjdeh."

Some further information concerning the effect produced in Turkish Armenia by the compulsory closing of the Armenian schools in Russian territory is to hand. It appears that on Easter Day at Erzeroum a passage having reference to this subject was introduced into the Litany as sung at the Armenian Church, of which the Prelate Ormanian is the officiating ecclesiastic. The interpolation consisted of a prayer to the effect that the Almighty would soften the heart of the Czar towards his Armenian subjects, and restore to them their schools. The Russian Consul, who had left the church before the Litany was sung, subsequently asked the Prelate for an explanation of his conduct. The Prelate replied that it had always been the practice of the Armenians when they suffered from oppression to invoke the Divine help, and with this explanation the Consul found it necessary to be content.

AMERICA.—Mr. Frederick Frelinghuysen, Secretary of State in the Cabinet of President Arthur, died on Wednesday. He was formerly Senator for New Jersey. In 1870 he was nominated Minister to England, but declined the appointment. He was made Secretary of State towards the close of 1881, succeeding Mr. Blaine in that post.

INDIA.—The furlough for officers in the Indian army has been again stopped. It is stated that the three months' stores collected at Quetta are to be permanently stored there.

A curious and exceptional offer of assistance has (the Allahabad correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* says) has been made to the Viceroy by the Dowager Maharani of Baroda, in the event of a war with Russia. The Maharani, having taken note of the offers of military assistance made to the Indian Government by the native princes, writes to inform his Excellency that she is prepared to raise and maintain at her own expense a corps of Amazons, who would all be Mahratti ladies. In explanation of this offer it may stated that the Mahratti are a warlike people inhabiting the mountainous districts of Central India. They at one time formed a powerful kingdom, and the early history of the East India Company contains many records of feuds and strife between the company and the Mahratti, in which the warlike qualities of the latter were frequently conspicuous.

A correspondent writing from India, who was present at the recent Durbar, says :—"Very little has been allowed to creep out about the more serious part of the conferences between Lord Dufferin and the Ameer, who is a splendid barbarian. They are, however, considered to have been fairly satisfactory. Certain incidents in connection with the ceremony are matters of gossip in the best-informed quarters here (Simla). Among others I may mention two. The murder of our agent Afzul Khan's relative has been a good deal canvassed. When the subject was mentioned to Abdurrahman, with a hint that a satisfactory explanation would be welcome, the Ameer replied, 'See how princes are the victims of calumny! The truth is that there is a certain Thing which walks about the streets of Cabul at night, and kills everybody it meets. I warned my friend Afzul of this Thing, but his relative would insist on going out in the evening; and one night he met this Thing and was killed.' Our opinion here is that the Ameer has a keen wit and a certain sense of humour. The second incident is not devoid of an element of the ridiculous. Among the presents given for the Ameer's son was a mechanical bird, but when wound up it refused to sing. In the press of other matters it was forgotten, but in the middle of the Ameer's speech protesting his devotion to the English, the bird, having recovered from the effects of overwinding, began its tune, and Abdurrahman's expressions of fidelity were delivered to the accompaniment of the sham canary. Here we think the Ameer a smart fellow, but we give no great credence to his words. He is, however, a man fond of his case."

CANADA.—The rebel leader Riel has been captured. It appears that yesterday week a party of scouts sent out by General Middleton encountered four men sauntering along a trail a mile and a-half from Batoche, one of whom was Riel. A scout, recognising him, approached, saying, "I am surprised to see you here." Riel replied, "I was coming to give myself up. My wife and family are across the river." Other scouts were then seen approaching. Riel, becoming afraid of being shot, begged his captors to take him to General Middleton's camp. General Middleton gave orders to all his men to keep to their tents when Riel was brought in, fearing that he would be shot, as many of the enraged soldiers had sworn to shoot him if ever they caught sight of him. Riel was taken quietly to General Middleton's tent, appeared unconcerned, but begged not to be shot. He looked careworn and anxious, and was shabbily dressed. His beard and hair were long and unkempt. While talking with General Middleton he rolled his eyes about with the look of a hunted man. Evidently he was in constant fear of violence from the soldiers. He said he had passed two nights since the battle on the bluffs near the place where he was found. He delared that all he wished was a fair trial. He preferred a civil to a military trial. He believed the rebellion would not be without result, as the Government henceforth would be more willing to listen to the grievances of the half-breeds. He was glad his books and papers left in his flight from Batoche had been taken, as they would show that he was not the actual leader of the rebellion, but that it had been encouraged by people of good standing around Prince Albert. Riel has the appearance of a fanatic. When told that he would not be tried by martial law he drew a long breath and said nothing. A moment later he repeated that he was not the leader of the rebellion. He then uttered a prayer, made the sign of the cross, asked if his family would be killed with that, pointing to the Gatling gun, saying he hoped nobody would have to suffer on his account. He then began to pray again.

A later telegram from Philadelphia says that General Middleton's camp continues quiet. Parties of rebels are still coming in and surrendering, being released on parole, unless they are found to have been leaders in the rebellion. Scouts have been sent to tell the others to surrender and to promise that they shall be set free on parole, so that they may return to their farms. Dumont's hiding-place has been ascertained, but he has not yet been captured. Eleven "councillors," however, are in custody. Riel continues depressed and shows signs of insanity. His friends in Montreal are collecting funds for his defence. They desire to retain Mr. Mercier, leader of the Opposition in the Quebec Parliament, as his counsel.

EGYPT.—Lord Wolseley on Saturday issued a special General Order to the forces about to be withdrawn from the Soudan. He expresses a deep sense of their admirable conduct, and says that his best thanks are also due to all ranks of the Royal Navy and of the Marines who have taken part in the campaign; and concludes as follows :—

"The deeds of the force in the Soudan have added one more chapter to the glorious records of our national prowess, and all of you who have belonged to it—soldiers and sailors—British, Indians, and Australians—may feel with pride that the high reputation of our Army and Navy has gained and not suffered at our hands. Among the many and varied memories of the recent campaign the remembrance of your keen soldierlike spirit will be the pleasantest to dwell upon. I shall always feel proud of having commanded you."

The negotiations with the friendly Arabs still continue. Colonel Chermside offers them weapons, money, and grain to keep the railway open. The further evacuation of Souakim is suspended until definite arrangements have been made with them.

Lord Wolseley sailed for England from Souakim on Tuesday in the transport *Queen*, with the members of his personal staff. Major-General Sir G. Greaves is now in command at Souakim. The railway line is to be kept open by means of an armoured train. The evacuation of the Western Soudan commenced on Thursday.

A Souakim despatch states that the vedettes of the Camel Corps had a skirmish on Wednesday afternoon with a party of the enemy, who advanced from Hasheen. On the arrival of the armed train to protect the railway line the enemy retired on Tamai. General Sir G. Greaves, accompanied by Colonel Le Mesurier, commanding Royal Engineers, visited Otao and Handoub on Wednesday morning in order to concert plans for the defence of Souakim after the withdrawal of the main force. The military police and invalids have commenced their journey down the Nile from the Soudan. The British garrison at Cairo will be increased, it is expected.

The *Arab*, with the Australian contingent, left Souakim on Monday. The Australians were greeted with cheering from the transports, and heartily responded. The colonial soldiers were clustered thickly on the deck as the vessel passed the *Queen* steamer, when they renewed their farewell cheers, the band playing "God Save the Queen." In a special general order Lord Wolseley says :—"I would also thank the gallant soldiers of the New South Wales contingent, not only for the services they have rendered, but also for the sympathy which prompted them to come from afar in order to take part in a war undertaken by the empire to which they belong. They will carry home with them the thanks of our Sovereign and the best wishes of those with whom they have fought side by side here. They have borne themselves well both in action and in camp; and I trust, should any serious war be forced upon our empire in future, we may again find ourselves shoulder to shoulder with Australian troops facing the common enemy."

The report of Sir Charles Wilson with regard to the delay in his starting for Khartoum has been issued as a Parliamentary paper, preceded by the following note from Lord Wolseley to the Marquis of Hartington :—

"I have the honour to forward a letter from Colonel Sir C. Wilson, R.E., giving the reasons for the delay in the departure of the steamers from Gubat. I do not propose to add any remarks of my own to this letter. The reasons given by Sir Charles Wilson must speak for themselves."

Sir Charles Wilson, in his report, says that the steamer from Khartoum reached Gubat on January 21, while his force was engaged with the enemy at Metammeh, and he received General Gordon's letters between three and four p.m. on that day. He at once determined to proceed to Khartoum, but several considerations led him to delay his start. He observes, however, that if he had left on the morning of the 22nd, and travelled at the same rate as he did, he should only have reached Khartoum at midday on the 26th, after it had fallen. The considerations which guided him were—(1) the military position, and the fact that his force was considerably weakened and hampered by the wounded; (2) a "most characteristic" letter of General Gordon, insisting most strongly on the British advance guard taking actual command of the steamers, and removing from them all pashas, beys, and men of Turkish or Egyptian origin; and the impossibility of manning the vessels with the Naval Brigade, as had been intended; this, remarks Sir Charles Wilson, was the principal reason for the delay; (3) Omdurman being in the hands of the enemy, who were in force with artillery, and the boats being in a *comparatively defenceless* condition, it was necessary to overhaul the engines and prepare the boats, as far as possible, for the heavy fire they would have to encounter; (4) there was nothing to show that the crisis at Khartoum, so long delayed, would occur within the next few days, and he hoped that the battle of Abu Klea, the result of which was known in the Mahdi's camp, would have delayed the crisis, though unfortunately it appeared to have had the opposite effect. Summing up, Sir Charles Wilson says :—"The only day which might have been saved was the 22nd, as the reconnaissance showed that the force had nothing to fear from the Berber direction; but I think that if I were again placed in similar circumstances I should act in the same way. From the moment the steamer started on the morning of the 24th no time was lost. No one can regret the untimely death of General Gordon more than I do, or could have been more anxious to relieve him, but I do not think that any action of mine could have saved his life or averted the fall of Khartoum."

The Cairo correspondent of the *Temps* has sent to that newspaper an account of the capture of Khartoum by an eye-witness, Ahmed Mahommed Saleh, a sergeant of the Egyptian Army, who was in the neighbourhood of the palace occupied by General Gordon, but has escaped from the conquered town. He arrived at Assouan on the 27th of April last. His narrative, literally translated from the Arabic, is as follows :—

"Khartoum was on the point of being reduced to famine. All kinds of food were selling at exorbitant prices. In the course of one night the rebels, numbering 25,000, under the command of Walad el Nogan, filled up the ditches outside the town. That operation could be carried out in consequence of the treason of several of General Gordon's officers—principally Farag Pasha, Ahmed Bey Ali Gelab, and Hassan Bey el Bagnischani. At daybreak, while the inhabitants were still asleep, the soldiers of Mahommed Ahmed entered the town, shouting, and began to massacre all those whom they met. They then attacked the palace of the Governor-General, who, after having killed two of his assailants, was overpowered by numbers. His head was cut off and taken to the Mahdi. The slaughter and pillage was continued till midday. Towards sunset the Ababdehs, who act as spies for the rebels, warned them of the approach of vessels coming from the north with soldiers and provisions. These troops coming to the rescue of the town were obliged to turn back, and two vessels were destroyed. If the English had reached Khartoum a few hours earlier they would have saved the town, which was well fortified and contained a garrison of 18,000 men. The greater number of these were killed. The Shaggiehs perished to a man in this slaughter. Three days after the occupation the rebels put to death Farag Pasha and Ahmed Bey. As regards the third traitor, Hassan Bey el Bagnischani, he was spared, and has joined the troops of the Mahdi."

The correspondent adds that the women of Khartoum were sold as slaves after a number had been reserved by Mohammed Ahmed and some of his chiefs. The dead amounted to more than 20,000. Their bodies, under the instruction of Mohammed Ahmed, were lying unburied.

The *Bosphore Egyptien* was published on Wednesday night, in spite of the assurance which Mr. Gladstone gave to the House of Commons on the 4th of May that the journal would not be reissued. The paper is written in the same style and tone which before distinguished it. The *Times'* correspondent at Cairo says :—"The mode of application of the law regarding printing-presses is not yet settled. It has all along been considered that if the newspaper was published before this settlement was arrived at the fact would take away all administrative power from the Egyptian Government and be a humiliation for England. The Egyptian Government will not again interfere in the matter. It sees how impossible it is for it to go against the will of France. It sees England daily struck on the one cheek, and the next day offering the other to the smiter. It is not surprising, therefore, if the Government here is afraid to take any further measures which might insult the dignity of the stronger Government."

Sir C. Warren has arrived at Shoshong, in Khama's country. That chief has gladly accepted a British protectorate, and has placed a large tract of country of great value at the disposal of the English settlers. Khama's country extends as far as the Zambesi.

It will be remembered that Captain Boyton a short time since affixed a dummy torpedo one night against the side of Her Majesty's ship *Garnet*, in New York Harbour. An official inquiry has been held into the circumstances, with the result that the sentry who was on duty at the time, and who, it was held by the Court, should have discovered Boyton before he reached the ship, has been sentenced to forty-two days' confinement. The officers in command of the ship will, it is stated, be tried by court-martial for negligence.

The latest information regarding the death of Dr. Nachtigal is to the effect that he quitted the Cameroons on the 11th of April in very bad health. On his arrival at Lagos he was so ill that Admiral Knoor authorised the *Moewe* to put to sea. The weather was fine, and Dr. Nachtigal was allowed to lie on deck. On the 19th, perceiving that he was dying, he asked to make his will. He expired on the 20th, at four o'clock in the morning. The steamer was then 100 miles from Cape Palmas, where his remains have been interred.

From a return in one of the New York papers, it appears that the religious denominations in that city are 28, classified as follows. The figures in parentheses indicate the number of churches or chapels :—1. Baptist (48); 2. Congregational (9); 3. Friends (4); 4. Lutheran (24); 5. Methodist (61); 6. Jews (31); 7. African Methodist (8); 8. Moravian (2); 9. Presbyterian (69); 10. United Presbyterian (7); 11. Reformed Presbyterian (5); 12. Protestant Episcopal (81); 13. Reformed Episcopal (2); 14. Reformed (Dutch) (27); 15. Roman Catholic (61); 16. Unitarian (3); 17. Universalist (4); 18. Christian Israelites; 19. German Evangelical Reformed; 20. Reformed German Christian; 21. Disciples, Christian; 22. German Evangelical; 23. Catholic Apostolic; 24. New Jerusalem; 25. Congregational Methodist; 26. Reformed Catholic; 27. Second Advent; 28. True Reformed (Dutch). About 54 places of meeting are associated with the 11 last named in the list, bringing the total up to 500.

IRELAND.

A meeting of the Senate of the University of the city of Dublin was held on Tuesday for the purpose of electing a Chancellor in the place of the late Lord Cairns. The University caput, consisting of the Right Hon. J. T. Ball, LL.D., Vice-Chancellor; the Rev. Dr. Jellett, Provost; and the Rev. J. W. Barlow, A.M., presided, and the proceedings were conducted in private. The three names sent forward by the Board were the Marquis of Waterford, the Earl of Milltown, and the Earl of Rosse, and the Senate was bound to elect one of the three or forfeit the right of election, which would then lapse to the Crown. The voting began at half-past twelve o'clock, and terminated at three, when, after the counting of the votes commenced, the result was declared as follows :—The Earl of Rosse, 84; the Marquis of Waterford, 45; Lord Milltown, 11. The Earl of Rosse was therefore elected.

The Sub-Commissioners in Ireland adjudicated upon 789 applications for a reduction of rent during the month of February, the result being a net reduction of rental from £13,664 to £10,996 per annum. 104 cases were dealt with in the Civil Bill Courts, the rental being reduced from £2,076 to £1,776. In many instances rack-renting had to be redressed, and the following cases are given as examples :—In Londonderry one small holding of an acre and thirty-seven perches was reduced from £3 to £1. In Queen's County a case is reported in which rent was reduced from £4 5s. 6d. to £1 17s. 6d. The townland of Rabbit Island, in county Cork, was reduced from £12 10s. to £6 10s. In other cases the reduction was only trifling.

At a meeting of the Irish National League in Dublin on Tuesday, Mr. Healy, M.P., who presided, said the activity of the people in seeking the franchise would result in returning at the general election eighty or eighty-five honest, independent members of the National party, and would prove that the traitors who were false to the country could no longer with impunity attach themselves to an English party. Had even twelve Irish supporters of the Government turned round and voted honestly in a recent division, a charge of £100,000 for registration expenses would have been taken off the taxpayers; and, again, had the Government been, as they would have been, turned out, the country would not have been threatened with a renewal of the Coercion Act. As to the general policy of the Coercion Act, which had been forced on the Cabinet by Lord Spencer, he had come to the conclusion that his Excellency must be a little astray in the head. Anyone who looked at him as he rode through the streets and saw the nervous and extraordinary manner in which like a caged animal he turned and twisted his head from side to side as if he was in momentary expectation of attack, must come to the conclusion that the unfortunate man's nerves were unstrung. Even on

that view he was no man fit to govern this country. There was no such man outside of a lunatic asylum. His whole mind had been disordered by the calamities of the last few years, and that was one of the misfortunes of the English Government in this country, that whereas this gentleman was no doubt in good health and spirits three years ago, a course of three years' Castle rule seemed to have disorganised him and made him what he was.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Monday.

Viscount Sidmouth gave notice that after the recess he would move a resolution to the effect that encouragement ought to be given to the Royal Naval Volunteers for the purpose of improving their efficiency as an auxiliary force. The Earl of Milltown moved that the South-Eastern and London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Companies (Arbitration) Bill be recommitted to the Select Committee to which it had been referred. The Committee had rejected the Bill without hearing anything on its merits, and in taking this course he contended that the Committee had committed an error of judgment which ought to be remedied. The Earl of Camperdown, as the Chairman of the Committee, vindicated the course which had been adopted, and after some remarks from Lord Inchiquin and the Lord Chancellor, who described the attempt to recommit the Bill as being perfectly preposterous, the motion was negatived without a division. The Earl of Wemyss moved a resolution deprecating any abandonment of the responsibilities which this country had undertaken during the last two years in the Soudan. He argued that the safety of the Suez Canal, which was of paramount importance to this country, was the first thing to be considered in connection with our Egyptian policy, and having dilated upon the responsibilities which the Government had incurred in relation to the Eastern Soudan, he touched upon the commercial and strategical importance of constructing the railway from Souakim to Berber, and strongly blamed the Government for leaving the Soudan to barbarism after so much expenditure in blood and treasure. Lord Napier of Magdala, in seconding the resolution, admitted that General Gordon had been sent out upon an impossible task, but ridiculed the suggestion that the necessity for employing the troops elsewhere was a valid reason for abandoning the expedition to Khartoum. Lord Wentworth, who expressed satisfaction at the announcement made in the House of Commons by Lord Hartington, deprecated any attempt to reverse the policy which the Government had determined upon, and, having pointed out the insuperable difficulties which any attempt to complete the Souakim-Berber railway would involve, moved an amendment expressing satisfaction at the recall of the troops from the Soudan and approving the abandonment of the railway from Souakim to Berber. The Duke of Argyll disagreed with the course which had been recently pursued by the Government, and, in discussing at some length the whole of the Egyptian question, pointed out where in his opinion the Government had been right and where they had been wrong. He did not blame the Government for the bombardment of Alexandria, but he thought the subsequent demoralisation and destruction of the Egyptian army was a grave error. He recognised the desirability of securing, if possible, a firm government in the Soudan, and, while offering no opinion with regard to the withdrawal of our troops, which he admitted might be necessary for political and financial reasons, maintained that it was our absolute duty to ensure the safety of the Soudan garrisons. Dealing with the mission of General Gordon, he protested against the dilatoriness of the Government in not sending earlier to rescue him, and urged that it was the paramount duty of England to do all in her power to secure the annihilation of the Egyptian slave trade. Earl Granville, in defending the conduct of the Government, protested, in reply to an observation from Lord Napier of Magdala, that the military reputation of this country never stood higher. The fact that we had been drawn into Egypt by the force of circumstances and for a temporary purpose did not involve any necessity for permanent occupation. No doubt the Government had incurred great responsibilities, but these were capable of fulfilment by the policy which the Government were pursuing. As to the Soudanese, he thought that self-government would be more for their benefit than any government which could be established by Egypt, and he regretted the tendency to demand an advance to Khartoum which had been manifested in the debate. Earl Cowper held that, whatever mistakes might have been made in the past, the Government were embarked on the right course now. The Earl of Longford regretted that so much blood and money should have been wasted, while Lord Dunraven contended that the Government had not succeeded in a single object they had undertaken, and that the Soudanese would accept our retreat as a confession that we were beaten. The Marquis of Salisbury, while holding it to be impossible to exaggerate the failures of the Government in Egypt and the Soudan—failures which had been purchased at an immense price—said he could not support the motion because it was not a mere vote of censure, but indicated a policy to be pursued. Circumstances had changed since the policy recommended had been accepted. Another retreat had been effected and another abandonment of our resolutions. The House was left entirely without information, and could not accurately judge until after the correspondence and the papers were produced; and on the whole he could see no advantage in accepting the motion. The Earl of Derby vindicated the decision of the Government not to advance to Khartoum, and after some remarks from the Duke of Marlborough the motion and amendment were both withdrawn.

The Registration Bills and several other Bills were forwarded a stage, and the House adjourned at twenty minutes to nine o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Monday.

At question time Mr. J. K. Cross, answering questions from Mr. Salt and Sir H. D. Wolff, said that no arrangement for a treaty had been concluded with the Ameer since the agreement contained in the letter of Sir Lepel Griffin in 1881, which had already been laid before Parliament; and in answer to Sir S. Northcote, Mr. Gladstone said the communications with the Russian Government as to a portion of the frontier line had not yet concluded, and he had no further statement to make to the House. In answer to questions as to the course of business, Mr. Gladstone said that on Thursday the Lords' amendments to the Registration Bill, would be taken as the first business, and after that the Welsh Intermediate Education Bills, and about nine or ten the motion would be made that the House at its rising on Friday adjourn until June 4. In answer to a question from Mr. Slagg, Lord E. Fitzmaurice announced that the commercial negotiations with Spain had fallen through.

The House having gone into Committee of Supply, after some preliminary discussion on a point of order resulting out of the count-out of Friday, a vote on account of the Civil Services amounting to £3,360,500 was moved, and Lord R. Churchill, with the view of compelling the Government to come again to the House within a short time, moved the reduction of the vote by £2,000,000. This motion he grounded on the recent Blue-book, which he described as most "melancholy reading" and a sorry "record," which, he believed, had deeply offended the national sentiment. It showed frequent gaps and signs of having been carefully edited. Travelling through the salient points, he dwelt first on the "sacred covenant," which he showed had been imagined by Mr. Gladstone without any sufficient warrant or foundation in the assurances which had been given by the Russian Government. No such agreement as had been stated by the Prime Minister on March 13 had ever been arrived at. As to the support promised to Sir P. Lumsden, he maintained that no effective support had been given him, and that if the Government had declared that any attack on the Afghans would be regarded as a *casus belli*, they would have prevented any attack being made on Penjdeh. Dealing with the series of suppositions in Mr. Gladstone's speech on the previous Monday, he insisted that there was no proof whatever that the Ameer was willing to give up Penjdeh, and urged the Government to say at once whether they contemplated making a concession which would be flying in the face of Sir P. Lumsden and all other officers of experience in the question.

Mr. Gladstone said it was impossible to enter into the details of the Blue-book without having an opportunity of carefully looking into it, which he had not yet been able to do. He failed to see how the Government could have prevented the Penjdeh catastrophe, and refused to admit that it could be inferred that the Ameer set a value on Penjdeh because his troops had defended it. The Government had given all the support they could to Sir P. Lumsden, and had done all in their power to allay the excitement caused by the affair at Penjdeh. Some cries of "No" from the Opposition led the Prime Minister to protest against this modern style of conducting debates, which must necessitate considerable changes in the mode of procedure, though they could not affect him, whose presence in the House must be counted rather by weeks than months, or months than years. As to the agreement of March 13, he desired to defer a full explanation until he had had the opportunity of referring to what he had said in the House; but he pointed out that the reasons why it had failed to prevent bloodshed had been made the subject of a reference. Sir S. Northcote, who pointed out that the papers already published contained very inadequate information, twitted the Government with always avoiding discussion because of the absence of papers. He strongly objected to being always met with the argument that there were more papers to come, and was anxious to know how far the country could rely upon statements made by Ministers, especially when it was found that in one important particular at least they had been proved to be inaccurate. Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett thought the papers showed great mismanagement at the Foreign Office; and Mr. Onslow complained that the services of Sir P. Lumsden and other British officers had not been adequately recognised. Mr. Biggar also spoke; and Lord R. Churchill having asked leave to withdraw his motion, Mr. Biggar insisted on taking a division, when the amendment was lost by 74 to 11. After this the Parnellite members continued the discussion of the Vote in a discursive fashion until long past midnight, raising a great variety of points included in the estimate.

The next business was the adjourned debate on the introduction of the Crofters Bill, and the Lord Advocate, in resuming, explained the main provisions of the Bill. In the first place it does not incorporate rural townships as the Commissioners recommended, but it deals with the other demands put forward on behalf of the crofters—viz., security of tenure, fair rents, compensation for improvements on a more liberal scale, and more land. The Bill enacts that a crofter shall not be removed except for breach of statutory conditions, which include payment of rent, subdivision of holdings, injury to holdings, and assignments. This, he contended, was nothing more than to give legislative sanction to the custom which had existed on all benevolently managed estates, and there was a precedent for it in the old Scotch Act of 1449. There would, however, be no power of assignment or sale, and there would be no limitation of rents which would come under the Bill. Adequate machinery would be provided through the medium of valuers or arbitrators voluntarily appointed for the fixing of fair rents and compensation. But with regard to the demand for "more land" or enlargement of small tenancies, the Government, he said, had not seen its way to make any compulsory proposals.

A short conversation followed, in which the Bill was generally approved of, and leave was in the end given to bring in the Bill, which was read a first time.

The House was counted out a five minutes to three o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Tuesday.

The Lunacy Acts Amendment Bill passed through Committee *pro formâ*, it being understood that a number of amendments which had been inserted in it would be considered on the report.

Lord Bramwell moved the second reading of the Arbitration Bill, the object of which was, he said, not to alter but to codify the existing law on the subject. The Bill was read a second time.

The Earl of Rosebery moved the second reading of the Earldom of Mar Restitution Bill, and gave a long and interesting historical account of the question involved. The Lord Chancellor expressed approval of the measure, and the Marquis of Huntly and the Marquis of Lothian having spoken, the Bill was read a second time and referred to a Select Committee.

In Committee on the English Registration Bill, the Marquis of Salisbury moved the omission of the proviso which deprives undergraduates of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge of the franchise. He failed to see why when the vote was made almost universal a man should be deprived of it simply because he was a student, and in answer to the objection that the University authorities were opposed to the privilege being granted, pointed out that they were not unanimous. The Lord Chancellor strongly opposed the amendment. He thought the enfranchisement of undergraduates most objectionable, mainly on the ground that it might lead to ill-feeling between University and town. Lord Kimberley was understood to speak in justification of the amendment, which, after a few words from Lord Balfour of Burleigh, was agreed to. Lord Balfour of Burleigh then moved the rejection of Clause 16, which provides that the receipt of parochial medical relief shall not disqualify a voter, and after some discussion, in which the Lord Chancellor, the Marquis of Salisbury, the Earl of Belmore, Lord Fitzgerald, the Duke of Richmond, and the Earl of Kimberley took part, the clause was struck out on a division by 72 to 47. The Bill then passed through Committee, as did the Scotch and Irish Registration Bills, and, after some further business had been disposed of, their Lordships adjourned at 20 minutes to 8 o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Tuesday.

At the time of private business, on the consideration of the Metropolitan Board of Works Bill, Mr. Bryce carried a clause by 136 to 56 compelling the Board of Works to lay out a piece of land in All Saints, Poplar, as a recreation ground; and on the North British Railway Bill Mr. Warton was beaten by 161 to 56 in an attempt to strike out the clause enabling the company to improve their Edinburgh hotel property. At question time Sir A. Hayter, in answer to Sir R. Cross, said no telegram had been received from Lord Wolseley while at Souakim protesting against his instructions as impracticable from a military point of view; and Mr. Hibbert said that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would state on the second reading of the Budget Bill what course he would take in consequence of the breakdown of the Spanish commercial negotiations. Sir W. Harcourt intimated that on Thursday the East India Loan Bill would be taken first and the Welsh Intermediate Education Bill after. The Lords' Amendments to the Registration Bill would be taken on Wednesday, and the Telegraphs Bill on Friday. Lord J. Manners said he would defer his amendment on this Bill until going into Committee. Mr. Warton was calling attention to the procedure on Wednesday sittings when the House was counted out at ten minutes past six o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Wednesday.

Their Lordships sat at 11.30, in order to agree to the report and third reading of the Registration Bills, and to send them down to the House of Commons as amended. Their Lordships met again at five o'clock to receive the Bills, which came back with all the amendments agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Wednesday.

The Lords' amendments on the Registration Bills occupied the early part of the sitting, but debate arose on two only. The first was the amendment, moved by Lord Salisbury, striking out Mr. Stuart's proviso which disfranchised all persons *in statu pupillari* residing in college in the English Universities, and the Attorney-General, in recommending the House to agree to it, treated the matter as one rather of an abstract than a practical character, and pointed also to the large majority by which the House had refused to disfranchise the students of Trinity College, Dublin. Mr. Davey expressed regret at the decision of the Government, but thought it useless to oppose it, while Mr. Raikes, Sir R. Cross, and Colonel Makins congratulated the Government on their change of opinion, and Mr. Sexton agreed that the Lords had acted reasonably and consistently, which was more than could be said for the Commons. Mr. Labouchere, though he agreed with the amendment, said he should vote against it, because he thought the Lords should have nothing to say in such a matter, and after this the amendment was agreed to. On the amendment which had the effect of disfranchising the recipients of medical relief, the Attorney-General declined to go into the merits of the question, which, he pointed out, had been fully discussed already and on which the House had given two different decisions, but urged the danger to the Bill of disagreeing from the amendment, and pointed out that, if the Lords insisted on it, the Bill might be lost and the whole arrangements for making up the new register thrown into confusion. Mr. Davey againregretted the decision of the Government, but intimated that, in the circumstances, he would not take the responsibility of imperilling the Bill. Mr. Gorst, however, dissented from this view, and contended that there was ample time for the two Houses to come to an agreement without any danger to the Bill. Mr. Courtney energetically supported the Lords' amendment on principle, while Sir S. Northcote pointed out that the clause which had been struck out was entirely foreign to the Bill, and urged that the point, which was as much social as political, ought to be dealt with separately and after full consideration. In the end, after a long conversation, the House agreed with the Lords' amendment, on a division, by 107 to 66.

The Lords' amendments to the Scotch and Irish Bills were agreed to without objection.

Before proceeding to the other orders, Mr. Gladstone announced a modification in the programme for the session, and intimated that, on reconsideration and acting on information that it would not make any great demand on the time of the House, the Government had determined to introduce this session a Land Transfer Bill and to forward the Labourers Bill. Mr. Acland moved the second reading of the Pluralities Acts Amendment Bill, the principal object of which is to enable Bishops to make provision for clerical assistance in parishes where it may be needed. Sir J. Mowbray gave the Bill a qualified approval, and Mr. Gladstone, who fully recognised its importance, expressed satisfaction at the reforming tendency on the part of the Church which it manifested. Mr. Picton opposed the Bill, on the ground that the only way to satisfactorily reform the Church was by disestablishment and disendowment, and Sir R. Cross vigorously defended it. Mr. R. Paget, Dr. Cameron, and Mr. S. Leighton having spoken, Mr. Warton moved the rejection of the Bill, but, after some remarks from Mr. Tomlinson, Mr. Hubbard, and Colonel Makins, it was read a second time without a division and ordered to be referred to a Select Committee.

Mr. Broadhurst next moved the second reading of the Sites for Places of Religious Worship Bill. Colonel Makins moved its rejection, and Mr. Beresford-Hope having argued that the requirements of public worship were not such as to warrant any interference with the fundamental rights of property, Sir W. Harcourt, speaking in support of the Bill, referred to the Church Building Acts as supplying a complete answer to Mr. Beresford Hope's objections. Mr. Newdigate then moved the adjournment of the debate, and the motion having been negatived without a division, Mr. Hubbard spoke against the Bill until a quarter to 6, when the debate stood adjourned.

Some other business having been disposed of, Sir A. Hayter, in reply to Sir H. Fletcher, stated that the brigade of Guards who had recently embarked at Souakim for England had been ordered to stop at Alexandria, but they had not been ordered to disembark.

The House adjourned at five minutes to six o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Thursday.

Lord Dalhousie moved the second reading of the Sea Fisheries (Scotland) Bill, the main object of which is to enable the Scotch Fishery Board to make experiments and to collect statistics as to whether the inshore waters are being overfished. It also facilitates the recovery of damages by fishermen in case of accident and injury to their lines and nets. The experiments to which he referred were rendered necessary by the difference of opinion between the Commissions which had examined into the matter. The Marquis of Lothian objected to the extraordinary powers proposed to be conferred on the Commissioners, and Lord Wemyss and the Marquis of Huntly also made some observations, after which the Bill was read a second time. Lord Lamington moved a resolution to the effect that it is the duty of England to withdraw from the Declaration of Paris of 1854 in order that the rule that a belligerent is entitled to seize any goods in a vessel belonging to a hostile country may be returned to. He quoted at some length the opinions of several jurists and statesmen as to the rights of a belligerent with regard to merchandise on an enemy's ship, and having argued that a strong maritime nation ought to retain the power of exercising its full naval force in case of war, deprecated the continuance of a rule which placed a restriction upon the naval supremacy of England. Earl Granville justified the course pursued by Lord Clarendon at the Congress of Paris, and although there was no definite ratification o fthe Declaration of 1854, argued that England, as well as other nations who acceded to the Declaration, could not now refuse to be bound by it. Lord Coleridge doubted whether the Declaration of Paris was, on the whole, for the benefit of humanity, and thought it tended rather to benefit military than naval Powers; and ultimately Lord Lamington withdrew the motion. In answer to a question from Lord Inchiquin, the Earl of Kimberley said there was no truth in the statement that Russia had demanded to be represented diplomatically at Cabul, and took the opportunity of repeating that the Government regarded Afghanistan as being outside the sphere of Russian influence. Lord Wemyss asked what the Government intended to do about Souakim, and Lord Granville replied that the question was under the consideration of the Government, and there had been communications with Turkey, but with no other Power.

Their Lordships adjourned at a quarter to seven o'clock until June 5.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Thursday.

Sir S. Northcote having asked whether any information could be given as to the change in the orders to the Guards, Lord Hartington, while declining to go iuto details, said the House was aware of the reasons which had induced the Government to concentrate the troops in the Soudan for service elsewhere and to ask for a large sum to be spent on special preparations. Those preparations were still going on, and for the same reason it was thought desirable that the brigade of Guards should remain in the Mediterranean, but he could not say for how long. Several questions were put as to the proceedings of the Ameer and the progress of the frontier negotiations; also as to the proceedings of the Suez Canal Conference, but in each case the reply was that at the present moment it was not convenient to give explanations. In reply to questions as to the *Bosphore Egyptien* Lord E. Fitzmaurice confirmed the statement that the paper had reappeared; and Mr. Gladstone said that the Governments of France and England were exchanging views on the subject. In answer to Mr. S. Herbert, Lord E. Fitzmaurice said it was true that the Powers had protested against the reduction of the interest on the coupon. In answer to Baron H. de Worms and Sir W. Barttelot, Mr. Gladstone said that the terms of the "reference" on the Penjdeh incident had not yet been settled, and the arbitrator had not been appointed. In answer to a question from Sir L. Playfair Sir C. Dilke said there was not the smallest foundation for the rumour that the cholera had made its appearance in this country. In answer to Sir M. Hicks-Beach, Mr. Gladstone said it was impossible to come to any conclusion in reference to the Budget while the negotiations with Russia were going on, but before the second reading of the Bill was taken the Chancellor of the Exchequer would state what course would be pursued as to the beer and spirits duties. In answer to Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Cross said that the extraordinary military expenditure on India up to the end of July would be 306 lakhs of

rupees, besides £385,000 in this country for ordnance. Mr. J. MORLEY gave notice that on the introduction of the Crimes Bill he would move that, in view of the disappearance of exceptional crime in Ireland, it is inexpedient to revive exceptional legislation sanctioned for a temporary emergency.

Mr. J. K. CROSS moved the second reading of the East India Loan (£10,000,000) Bill, and after some preliminary observations on the financial position of the Indian Government, described at length the frontier lines of communication which it is proposed to create. These include a railway west of the Indus, which is to cost £2,000,000, or probably £2,750,000; a railway east of the Indus, including a ferry across the Indus, which is to cost £2,150,000; a bridge, which is to cost £400,000; a road west of the Indus, over the Pishin plateau, £200,000; and another road west of the Indus, which is to cost £300,000—in all, £5,050,000; which is to be defrayed partly out of revenue and partly out of this loan, and, in addition, there is a new Bolan line, which is being made out of revenue. Mr. STANHOPE regretted that the Government had not taken advantage of this opportunity to make the usual financial statement. Although he did not move his amendment condemning the Government for pulling up the Quetta line, which they were now laying down again, he criticised severely the action of the Government, which he could only attribute to the fact that the project was Lord Beaconsfield's and to the pledges of reversal given in the Midlothian campaign. Sir G. CAMPBELL made some remarks on the necessity of increasing the revenue by some means or other if these lines were to be made. Mr. ONSLOW expressed approval of the proposed intention to strengthen the fortifications of the Indian frontier, but severely criticised the policy of the Government in relation to Indian finances, which, he contended, were in a very serious position. Mr. SLAGG objected to any further extension of the Quetta railway, and, having dilated upon the present unsatisfactory condition of Indian finances, failed to see how the money was to be raised to meet the proposed increase of expenditure. Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. HARRIS, and Sir G. BALFOUR having spoken, Mr. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT argued in favour of the Quetta railway being extended to Candahar, as being the only means of effectually preventing a Russian advance on India; and Mr. JACKSON, speaking in support of the Bill, advocated railway extension in India, on the ground that commercial enterprise would thereby be more rapidly developed. Mr. A. O'CONNOR spoke against the Bill, and Mr. J. K. CROSS having pointed out that the Quetta railway when abandoned had not been destroyed, the Bill was read a second time.

On the motion that the House at its rising to-day adjourn until June 4, Sir W. BARTTELOT took the opportunity of uttering a vigorous protest against the foreign policy of the Government in Central Asia and Egypt, and called on the Prime Minister to take the House into his confidence and to study the honour and interests of the country. Mr. LABOUCHERE deprecated constant repetition of the assertion that the country had been degraded and discredited, and was of opinion that the Government had secured "peace with honour." He made some observations also in regard to the Crimes Bill, and urged the Government to reconsider their decision. Mr. CHAPLIN regarded the introduction of another Coercion Bill as a confession of the complete failure of the Ministerial policy in Ireland, and anticipated that the Government before they made their demand would justify it by full information of the condition of the country. Turning to the state of foreign affairs, he expressed some doubt whether we had secured peace—with or without honour—and called on the Government to say whether there was any agreement at all, and whether the Government had any hopes of its being concluded. Mr. GLADSTONE pointed out the dangers of these debates, and especially the danger of strengthening the war party in Russia. The Government, he said, were pursuing with steadiness what they believed to be a national policy, accepted by long tradition and by statesmen of all parties. Replying to questions as to the Ameer, he said that his behaviour during the late transactions had been such as to merit approbation. He could give no indication of the time when the negotiations would be brought to a close, and as to the squeezability of the Government, which had been commented on, he asked whether it was patriotic to encourage foreign Governments to believe that any concession might be obtained from us by sufficient pertinacity. As to Ireland, he said the views of the Government were embodied in a Bill which would be introduced in due time. Mr. GIBSON doubted whether foreign nations took the same view of the Ministers' policy as they themselves, and certainly no Government had exhibited the same infinite capacity of squeezability. But for the mechanical action of the majority the Government would have been out long ago, and all the difficulties arose out of their vacillation and their inability to make up their minds to any decided course. He severely criticised the policy of the Government with respect to the guaranteed loan, which, he said, the House had been coerced into agreeing to, and demanded, in conclusion, that some explanation should be given by the Government as to their present intentions with regard to Egyptian finance and as to the conditions under which the *Bosphore Egyptien* had been allowed to reappear. Sir M. HICKS-BEACH having joined in this demand, Sir W. HARCOURT maintained that the suppression of the *Bosphore Egyptien* was a perfectly legal act, and, while denying that the House had been coerced into assenting to the proposals of the Government in relation to the guaranteed loan, urged that it was unreasonable at the present time to ask the Government for further information upon either of the subjects referred to. Sir S. NORTHCOTE contended that the House ought, at least, to be informed as to the exchange of views which had taken place between the Cabinet and the French Government with respect to the republication of the *Bosphore Egyptien*, and repeated that the House had been coerced into agreeing with the Egyptian proposals. The House was about to separate for the recess under most unsatisfactory circumstances. Mr. O'Kelly, Sir G. Campbell, Mr. Warton, and Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett joined in the discussion, and in the end the motion for the adjournment was agreed to. Mr. MUNDELLA brought in the Welsh Intermediate Education Bill, the main provision of which establishes an education committee in every county which shall submit to Welsh educational authority, constituted for the purpose, plans to meet the educational requirements.

The House adjourned at twenty minutes past two o'clock.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

Acknowledging resolutions passed by the Borough of Chelsea Conservative Association, the Marquis of Salisbury "doubts greatly whether the people of this country have yet fully grasped the policy which the present Government have maintained ever since they came into office in 1880—a policy of nothing else but consistent cowardice, and which has resulted in nothing but an enormous taxation, grave loss of life, and national humiliation. When this policy is completely understood, there can be little doubt but that the electors will show their sense of disapproval of it at the polling-booths."

The Marquis of Salisbury has fixed Friday, the 26th of June, as the date for his visit to Portsmouth. The largest hall in the borough is to be taken for a meeting in the evening, at which the noble Marquis will deliver an address. Arrangements are being made by a committee of the Conservative Association to accord a suitable welcome to Lord Salisbury on this his first political visit to Portsmouth.

Sir Stafford Northcote will visit several parishes in North Devon during the Whitsuntide recess. He will address a meeting at Braunton, near Barnstaple, on Wednesday next, proceeding to Ilfracombe afterwards. On Thursday he will address a meeting at Combmartin on his way to Lynton, where a public meeting is to be held the same evening under the presidency of Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P. Sir Stafford will then proceed to Plymouth and embark on Mr. Smith's yacht *Pandora* for a short cruise.

Mr. Gladstone's statement in the House of Commons on Monday evening that his remaining time in the House of Commons would be measured "by weeks instead of by months, or at most by months and not by years" immediately became the subject of comment in the Parliamentary lobby, and was interpreted by members as authoritatively confirming the previous impression of many that the right hon. gentleman will not return to the House of Commons after the present session. Not a few members believe that Mr. Gladstone will withdraw from his official position before the close of the present session, in order that his successor may be duly recognised before the Liberal party go the country in the approaching general election.

Sir HARDINGE GIFFARD, speaking on Thursday at Mary Tavy, Devon, defended the action of the Opposition in insisting upon reviewing to what purpose the £11,000,000 were to be applied. The money was voted without a dissentient voice, because Mr. Gladstone asked for it to defend the honour and interests of England. But what had happened? Instead of maintaining the courageous attitude of a British Minister resisting a tyrant who was endeavouring to make unprovoked war upon an ally of England, Mr. Gladstone had been guilty of a shameful surrender of British interests and a shameful cowering before the power of the Czar. Sir Hardinge denounced the Budget as one which admitted the goods of the foreigner free while taxing the beverages of the working classes.

A meeting of the Ramsgate branch of the Thanet Conservative Association was held on Wednesday night—Mr. K. W. Wilkie presiding—at which Mr. AKERS-DOUGLAS, junior member for East Kent, introduced Colonel KING-HARMAN, member for Dublin county, who delivered an address condemning the home and foreign policy of the Government, and charged them with having alienated the whole of those nations whom Lord Beaconsfield had left loyally disposed towards us. It was resolved that should Colonel King-Harman contest Thanet the association would give him a hearty support.

A well-attended meeting was held at Sunbury Court on Monday, under the auspices of the Sunbury Conservative Association. Colonel Harfield, the chairman of the association, presided, and on the platform were Mr. Dixon-Hartland, M.P., Mr. Akers-Douglas, M.P., Mr. E. Barnett, the Rev. H. Vigne, and other local gentlemen. Mr. DIXON-HARTLAND, M.P., who is the Conservative candidate for the Uxbridge Division, in the course of his address said that the foreign policy of the Government had involved the country in a succession of diplomatic defeats coupled with enormous expenditure of money and blood for nothing. The country had got nothing but loss of that prestige which Lord Beaconsfield so carefully guarded. Mr. Gladstone began his Midlothian campaign by insulting Austria, and when he got into power he had to apologise. It was wonderful when England began to apologise how many Powers there were who wanted to be apologised to. Mr. Gladstone was maintaining our prestage in Egypt by slaughtering thousands with whom we were not at war and by making a railway from nowhere to nowhere. Our soldiers and sailors always did their duty, but it was hard on them they should be called on by prodigies of valour to relieve the blunders of Downing-street. Every article of foreign manufacture brought into the country represented a loss to the working man of at least 20 per cent. of the price in wages, and some protection ought to be afforded to native industry. Mr. BARNETT proposed a resolution condemning the policy of the Government. Mr. AKERS-DOUGLAS, M.P., seconded the motion, and in the course of his remarks said that the result of Lord Beaconsfield's policy was peace with honour; and of Mr. Gladstone's, war with disgrace, while the professed economy of the Liberal Government was a snare and a shame. The resolution was carried unanimously. A vote of confidence in Mr. Dixon-Hartland was proposed by Mr. HOUGHTON, seconded by Mr. E. MORTEN, and carried enthusiastically.

Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL presided at the house dinner of the St. Stephen's Club on Wednesday night. In responding to the toast of "The Conservative Cause," proposed by Mr. E. CLARKE, his Lordship said that one of the leading features of the cause and principles of the Tory party was the maintenance and connection between Ireland and Great Britain. "The Government intend to apply for a renewal of the Coercion Acts. This proposal meant that the remedial legislation of the Government, of which they had heard so much, had not, although four years in operation, produced any effectual results. It meant that Mr. Gladstone's message of peace had been scornfully repudiated; that the boasted administration of Lord Spencer, which Liberal organs were never tired of extolling, had been fruitless and in vain; that the loyal demonstrations during the Royal visit had really no meaning, and that really the state of Ireland at the present moment was as dark and gloomy and bad as it was in the dreary days of 1879 and 1880—those perilous days of stark famine and trouble. The leaders of the Radical party in the Cabinet, Mr. Chamberlain and Sir Charles Dilke, who after all were men of common sense and men of great ability, would never have given consent to legislation so exceedingly awkward for the Radical party unless the state of Ireland was as bad as he had described it. At the present moment it was more than ever indispensable that the United Kingdom should be in reality, as well as in name, united. He knew of no period in our history when we had to resist so many foes, open and concealed, at the same time. Russia was rapidly advancing on India, and was day by day putting forward more preposterous pretensions. The Vote of Credit might be described, as in 1877 and 1878 Mr. Gladstone described the vote of the then late Government, as a vote of discredit. The present vote was demanded for military operations in order to resist the Russian advance on India. In 1878 Mr. Gladstone said, in reply to an address from Scotch Nonconformist ministers:—'The Scotch as a people are more free than their neighbours from illusions—(laughter)—from the bugbears which are set up to show how perilous it would be to us that Russia should be in possession of the two waterways of the Tigris and Euphrates, and other delusions more ridiculous than these. The opinion that it is perfectly easy for Russia to traverse hundreds of miles of desert, to mount almost 10,000ft. of mountain altitude, to carry her armies into India, are a set of old wives' fables which I should insult you by detailing in your presence.' This was Mr. Gladstone's political foresight, and he justified it by a demand for eleven millions to resist the Russian attack on India, and by a financial deficit of fifteen millions." Criticising the policy of the Government in Egypt, Lord Randolph said that they had stirred up among the Arab tribes blood feuds that would last for a century. "In old days it used to be a position of great safety for any country to be an ally of England, and it was also a position of great pride and dignity for any individual to be an Envoy of England, but now that was all changed. Our two most prominent allies, the Khedive of Egypt and the Ameer of Afghanistan, had had to submit to a very considerable loss of valuable territory; and as for the friendly native tribes of the Soudan or of South Africa, they had had to submit to being plundered of all their possessions and deprived of their liberty and their homes. As for our Envoys, the position of a British Envoy now meant simply ruin or failure, as witness the case of Sir Bartle Frere, Mr. Goschen at Constantinople, or Lord Dufferin in Egypt. Lord Northbrook, sent to Egypt on a similar errand, had come back in disgrace; while Lord Wolseley, despatched to rescue Gordon, and who had been given *carte blanche* to smash the Mahdi, had been recalled in something like disgrace; and last, but not least, our distinguished Envoy on the *frontier of India, Sir Peter Lumsden*, who had undergone every peril and privation, had been recalled in something very much like disgrace, the Russian agent at the same time having received at the hands of the Emperor of Russia a distinguished reward; but the greatest of all our Envoys, the greatest hero of a century, General Gordon, had lost his life. Sir E. Thornton had been treated very much in the way in which one would treat an unfortunate creditor. Surely the country must be in an evil state when this happened—a state in which no Envoy in his senses could consent to represent his country abroad, and a condition when the Powers of Europe could not, if they wished to preserve their safety and integrity, consent to become an ally of Great Britain."

Lord RIPON presided on Wednesday night at the house dinner of the National Liberal Club. In replying to the toast of the Government, proposed by Mr. WOODALL, he said that the Government had a strong claim on the country for having adopted what he hoped would prove to be a peaceful solution of the Russian difficulty. In these efforts they had displayed great skill and patience, firmness, and forbearance, and saved the country from a war which would have inflicted grievous evils on England, Russia, and India. There could not be a doubt that if the Tories had been in power we should at this moment have been at war, and if Lord Salisbury and Lord Randolph Churchill should be entrusted with the government of England, within a short time the result would be war. He considered that the adoption of arbitration increased greatly the claims of the Government to their confidence. He considered it a very important thing that it should have been adopted, especially in such a case as the present, which was a point of honour, and he looked upon it as a great step for the permanent maintenance of peace, and a great gain for the true interests of humanity. He also thought they were entitled to their thanks for having put an end to military operations in the Soudan. Turning to domestic topics, he remarked:—Amongst the first business that would claim the attention of the new Parliament was local government for England, Scotland, and Ireland. He ventured to say that local self-government was a greater want in Ireland than in any other part of the kingdom. He also believed that in the new Parliament something would be done to give self-government to the metropolis. He believed the new electors would have something to say about the land laws. He remembered that the doctrines which were enunciated by Cobden and Bright used to be considered very dangerous, but they were now accepted by such Conservative-Liberals as Mr. Goschen. With regard to our colonies and dependencies, the Liberal policy was to strive to bind together all parts of the dominions of the Crown, not by iron fetters of legislation, but by the silken bands of mutual confidence and aid, leaving to our colonies absolute fulness of that freedom which was already bearing such rich fruits, and regulating our conduct towards other races by a consistent endeavour to fulfil the duty of leading them on in the path of progress and securing their highest good.

Lord JOHN MANNERS presided on Tuesday night at a meeting in support of the candidature of Captain James and Mr. J. Blundell Maple, of the West and South Divisions of St. Pancras, held at the Tolmers-square Institute, Hampstead-road. He said that, thanks to the patriotism and firmness of the House of Lords and to the Conservative leaders of both Houses of Parliament, the country was now approaching a general election under circumstances peculiarly favourable to the true development of Constitutional principles in every district of the metropolis; and never, perhaps, were issues of greater moment and importance ever confided to the arbitrament of the electors. Egypt and the Soudan were to be left in a state of chaos. The Afghan Blue Book revealed a melancholy picture of incapacity, imbecility, irresolution, vacillation, and perpetual retreat. The wonderful agreement they had heard about was referred to the arbitrament of some neutral Power. As an Englishman, without any reference to party politics, he sincerely hoped that a neutral Power would refuse this barren, ridiculous arbitration. Where a Radical Government interfered in the affairs of Great Britain in foreign countries, it was only to produce mischief, anarchy, confusion, and bloodshed; and in the last result disgrace and humiliation. There was nothing the Government undertook in which they succeeded. They had fulfilled hardly any of the pledges they had given, but had plunged half the world into confusion, misery, and chaos, doing nothing to alleviate the burdens of any class of the community.

Sir WILLIAM HART-DYKE, M.P., addressed a well-attended public meeting at the Institute, St. Mary Cray, on Tuesday night. In the course of his remarks he said that if the Seats Bill received the final assent of Parliament, and the Dartford Division were formed as proposed, he would be ready, if it was the wish of the Conservative party, to be their candidate. They were now passing into a new era of politics, and if he was the candidate of their suffrages it could not be as an old-fashioned Tory, but it must be as one who was able to appreciate the change in the new order of things. They could not admit two millions of new voters within the pale of the Constitution and expect that all things would go on in the same fashion as twenty years ago. The future of the country would depend greatly upon how much or how little interest the new electors took in foreign matters. The apathy of Englishmen with regard to the conduct of Egyptian affairs was most lamentable. There had been much unnecessary bloodshed, and now, having attained nothing, excepting making ourselves ridiculous in the eyes of Europe, the troops were to be withdrawn. The same was the case after the bombardment of Alexandria, for the British troops were then withdrawn. He then referred to the relations between England and Russia, and said that the reason why the country was in such a terrible muddle was because the Prime Minister had sedulously opposed Lord Beaconsfield's policy towards Russia.

A Parliamentary paper has been issued containing correspondence respecting the suppression of the *Bosphore Egyptien*. It opens with a complaint made by Sir Evelyn Baring last January concerning the French press in Egypt, and suggesting that representation should be made to the French Government. Lord Lyons was accordingly directed to do this, and M. Ferry, then the French Premier, promised to instruct the French agent in Cairo to do all he properly could to abate the evil. Sir Evelyn Baring, on March 29, informed the Government that Nubar Pasha proposed to notify the suppression of the *Bosphore Egyptien* and enforce it, and three days later Earl Granville informed him that the Government saw no cause to interfere. The paper accordingly was suppressed, and on April 10 Lord Lyons communicated a statement of M. de Freycinet, the French Foreign Minister, that the question was a very serious one, and that redress must be insisted upon. On the next day Earl Granville informed Sir Evelyn Baring that the Government were of opinion the best course would be for the Egyptian Government to maintain a conciliatory attitude while adhering to their legal position. On April 15th his Lordship further informed Sir Evelyn that M. de Freycinet complained of the closing of the printing establishment and ill-treatment of the officials of the French Consulate, setting aside entirely the question of the suppression of the newspaper, and the noble Earl asked whether Nubar Pasha could not propose to reopen the printing-office without allowing the newspaper to appear. Further correspondence followed on the legal aspects of the question; and on April 25 Earl Granville had an interview with M. Waddington, who said M. de Freycinet had no wish to shield the *Bosphore*, or prevent its being properly dealt with, but there had been an infraction of a French domicile, and an affront to a French representative, and for this it was necessary to have reparation. The Cabinet decided the same day to advise Nubar that the printing-office should be reopened, but that, as the officials acted under orders, they should not be punished, and two days later they advised him to express regret for the incidents which attended the suppression. These terms the French Government accepted, and the correspondence concludes with a letter of Lord Lyons, dated April 29th, mentioning M. de Freycinet's high sense of the friendliness shown by Earl Granville in the matter.

The Bishop of Bedford presided on Wednesday afternoon in Lowther Lodge, Kensington-gore, at a drawing-room meeting, the invitations to which had been issued by the Hon. Mrs. James Stuart-Wortley, the practical foundress, aided by the Wigram family, of the East London Nursing Society, the parent of larger and better-known institutions. The Princess Christian, who takes a warm interest in the nursing of the East London poor, the Earl and Countess of Darnley, Lady Alice Havelock, Lady Louisa Mills, and many others were present. The speakers, who included the chairman, Sir Edmund Hay Currie, Dr. Farquharson, M.P., Mr. Percy Wigram, the Rev. Harry Wilson, the Rev. Dr. Ross, and the Rev. W. L. Blackley, dwelt on the importance of the object, and the thoroughness and economy of the society's work.

Painted windows as a memorial of departed worth and gallantry have an interest in the eyes of all. Mr. W. G. Taylor has at all times pleasure in showing his works in progress, both for church and hall, the introduction of likenesses in windows being a special study. Designs and estimates sent. Medal awarded to works in Paris Exhibition.—The "Art" Works, 4, Berners-street, London, W.

LORD SALISBURY ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

Lord Salisbury was present at the annual dinner of the Middlesex Conservative Association given on Wednesday night at the Duke of Wellington's Riding School, Albert-gate, and responded to the toast of "The Conservative Party," which was proposed by Baron Henry de Worms. Replying to Lord Granville's observations on his recent speech, Lord Salisbury said :—

"According to the view that he takes of discussions at public meetings in England, it is our duty in the first place so to carve and shape our language that no breath of it should mortify the sensitive feelings of the foreign Powers whose high morality—(laughter)—cannot bear any shadow cast upon their reputation ; and we are so to represent the current of public events that distant nations and dependencies may thank Heaven for the wisdom and courage of the Ministry of which Lord Granville forms a part. I feel myself wholly incompetent for the duties Lord Granville seeks to impose upon me. I cannot speak of a surrender as anything else but a surrender. I cannot, with the public opinion of Europe and of the world before me, refuse to acknowledge that a deep humiliation has followed the foreign policy of England, whether in Asia or Africa. I cannot represent our recent campaigns in Egypt as brilliant examples of strategy and foresight—strategy and foresight, I mean, on the part of the Government. I cannot speak of the results of these remarkably costly undertakings as likely to shed much honour and glory upon the statesmanship of the generation in which we live. We cannot accept such limitations of the right of discussion. Our fathers would not have submitted to them, and least of all in the present day can we bear that our freedom should be restrained, because discussion in public meetings in this country is assuming more and more importance as a factor in the government of England. When the House of Commons fulfils its duty—when it acts as an independent judge of the conduct of the Ministry of the day, as it used to do twenty or thirty years ago—then the discussion out of doors does not acquire the importance which it possesses now ; but when the independence of the House of Commons is manifestly gone, then public meetings become of the utmost importance. I do not think any one can conceal from himself that a change has come over the spirit of the House of Commons. No one can flatter himself that it is a mere partisan reproach that its independence is not what it used to be. We have seen in this country a great revulsion of feeling. No one can doubt the condemnation which has attended the hideous succession of failures and blunders which have marked her Majesty's Administration. Yet, in spite of public opinion abroad, the well-drilled battalions have marched with unfaltering step to the assertion of what they formerly denied and to the denial of what they formerly asserted."

There was another reason why public opinion should be invoked to judge of the conduct of the Government of the day. There was a want of any sustaining impulse to drive them forward in the path that they once entered. They had their moments of good resolution. Under the pressure of some great calamity they showed signs of incipient resolution. They take great measures ; but the calamity passes by, the horrors of it are forgotten, the impulse ceases to affect them, and they allow their resolution gradually to pale and cool, and they retire with dishonour, certainly without success, from each undertaking which they so valorously commenced. When public opinion presses, then the more courageous element of the Cabinet appears. When public opinion ceases to press, the Quaker and less courageous element prevails. This Lord Salisbury illustrated by the Government's policy in the Soudan. Turning to their policy in relation to Afghanistan, he said that we must not think that any assurances we can obtain from Russia will absolve us from the duty of trusting to our own right hands alone for the safety of our Indian Empire.

"The Government have promised that they will take measures. They are in the hot fit of their persistent ague. They are now fully animated with the desire to make all the requisite exertions to render our Indian frontier safe. But how long will this last ? I am afraid it will last as long as their hot indignation over the fall of Sinkat or as long as the fervid desire to avenge the death of Gordon. It will last until some other subject of interest has attracted public attention. Then the expenditure will be stopped and the railway be put aside, and the fortresses forgotten ; and we shall be told, when there are inquiries about the Russian advance towards India, that we have the most positive assurances that they do not intend to go in that direction."

Proceeding to discuss the cry with which the Liberals would approach the constituencies after the dissolution, Lord Salisbury referred to Lord Lorne's declaration to the Hampstead electors with regard to Disestablishment in Scotland, and said that he believed Lord Lorne had volunteered to be the first in a forlorn hope, and that was in the opening of the first parallel in the siege on the Established Church of England.

"There is another subject which it is difficult to express in a phrase, but when I mention the 'ransom' Mr. Chamberlain proposes you will understand the kind of topic I mean. You remember the remarkable speech of Mr. Chamberlain in January. He has not repeated those sentiments since, because, I believe, they were not agreeable to all the members of the Cabinet. What he said was that everybody who was born into this world had a natural right to land—I don't know how much, but I suppose as much as he could get—and that society was banded together to restrain them from their natural right. It is asked what ransom society is to pay. This is important, as showing the kind of topic which will be used far and wide among the least educated portion of the new constituencies, in order to persuade them that some imaginary and impossible advantages are to follow. Directly you condescend to particulars these proposals are so absurd that they do not stand a moment's discussion. Mr. Chamberlain is not the originator of the idea of ransom. There are picturesque persons, travellers will remember, in Sicily and Greece, who are very familiar with the word 'ransom ;' but they are not supposed to exercise a beneficent influence upon the lands they condescend to occupy. The Turcomans are the greatest professors of the great doctrine of ransom. What is the result of their industry ? That there is ruin in the lands they ravage. Mr. Chamberlain has had under his hands a certain industry—electric lighting. He was not willing to give them free scope, but he thought he could get a ransom, and he desired that at the end of twenty-one years any enterprise these electric lighting companies might set up should be confiscated for the benefit of the municipality in which they acted. This shows you how this plan of exacting ransom has answered. Bankruptcy has followed, I believe, nearly every one of these companies ; and what is in America marching on with giant strides and contributing to the comfort of the people is here entirely strangled."

It was the duty of the Conservative party to carry political ideas to those to whom political ideas have hitherto been strange ; and unless they did their part to dispel and expose the fallacies which a hundred industrious tongues are preaching in all our villages, evils will befal the country, which will affect not only those who are rich and well-to-do, but all those who depend upon their industry for their life ; for, whether we were dealing with the Turcoman of Asia, or the brigand of Sicily and Greece, or the Radical of England, the same law would govern their proceedings and influence the result of their action. Wherever there is confiscation or robbery, be it illegal or by legal forms, their confidence will disappear. Where confidence disappears there industry will perish, and where industry perishes the labouring man will starve.

NUNC DIMITTITIS.

After the pathetic reference to his approaching retirement made by the Prime Minister in the House of Commons on Monday evening, it will be no surprise to learn that he has since been employed in framing a farewell manifesto. In fact he has drawn up *two* manifestos, the first one in accordance with the facts of his career, of which the other is a close travesty. The travesty, of course, is the one that is to be sent to the newspayers. But the other is on some accounts to be preferred ; and as a copy of it (says the *St. James's Gazette*) has fallen into our hands by a means now familiarly employed in journalism, we hasten to lay it before our readers. Its authenticity, otherwise doubtful, perhaps, is guaranteed by its inimitable style and its inherent truth :—

"My dear Lord Derby,—Since you are the person now living who have most nearly, in your political career, approached the ideal standard to which it has been vouchsafed only to myself fully to attain—of having publicly expressed at different times mutually destructive principles and opinions upon every subject within, and, indeed, I may almost venture to add without, the range of practical politics—I have thought it fitting that the remarks which I desire to communicate to my fellow-countrymen upon the touching occasion of voluntarily laying down the burden which I have now borne, perhaps not altogether without distinction, for upwards of half a century, should take the external form of a letter addressed to you in your threefold capacity of my assiduous imitator, my sympathising friend, and my faithful subordinate—or, let me rather say, attached colleague.

"It has pleased God to bless me at this supreme *moment of my career with the reflection, that the* service I have been permitted to render to my native land has not been unproductive of marked results—results which I believe will be felt as long as England remains a nation, and perhaps for an even more prolonged period.

"It is within the last five years that those results have, for the most part, been fully consummated ; and my retrospect may therefore not unfittingly take the form of a contrast between the condition of the world which confronted me when, in 1880, I reluctantly took up the burden to which the unanimous voice of the nation called me, and its condition now, after I have for five years supported, as best I might, the obligations of boundless power.

"Superficial minds might incline to the opinion that in England the development of my policy has not altered the conditions of life so fundamentally as has unquestionably been the case in other portions of the globe. The structure of society shows few material modifications. Buying and selling, sowing and reaping, toiling and spinning, continue, in the main, to be practised as they were before. But even here I have laid the foundations of future changes. By my legislation in the humble sphere occupied by hares and rabbits, I have established the principle that the owners of land may not let it, or the tenants of land hire it, as their wishes or convenience may dictate. It is the thin end of the wedge. There is every reason to hope that the thick end will soon follow it, inasmuch as I have prepared the way by changes in the electoral constitution of the country, which, as our excellent friend Mr. Schnadhorst assures me, can hardly fail to effect a speedy enlargement of the fissure. While I have secured a decrease in commercial activity, not, perhaps, blatantly conspicuous, but still sure and steady, I have as steadily increased the pecuniary burdens which the citizen is compelled to bear. I must acknowledge that the ecclesiastical constitution of the country remains substantially what it was. But Rome was not sacked in a minute.

"There is hardly any sphere of my activity in which I feel a keener or a more justifiable pride in my achievements than that which is associated with the name of Ireland. In 1880 that country was prosperous, and reasonably peaceful. But my accession to power coincided in time with a determined attempt by certain politicians whom I highly respect to effect a new and trenchant departure. By the blessing of God I was enabled to give greater effect to this development than could have been hoped for even by the most sanguine. By a judicious alternation of profuse concession with rigid coercion, I was able first to reward the revolutionary party with a far larger portion of success than they had any reason to anticipate ; and then to force upon them a breathing-space in which to prepare a new assault. That breathing-space now draws to a close ; and as I have withdrawn from operation the principal clauses of the measure by which the intermission from active agitation was enforced, I have no doubt that the new assault will be delivered through the same instrumentalities as the former one, and will meet with even more conspicuous success. This development will be materially promoted by the electoral changes to which I have already had occasion to refer.

"I know not whether my humble efforts beyond the limits of these islands have been crowned with more unparalleled success in Europe, Asia, or Africa. Let me turn first to the oldest of these continents. Five years ago the British raj in India was strong, safe, and honoured. These results had been brought about by politicians of a school especially odious to me. No one can say that I have not effectually shattered the edifice of character and credit reared by the immorality of ages and consolidated by the atrocities of Conservatives. I leave the Indian Government weak, in danger, despised. I have secured to the traditional enemy of that Government all the fruits of such victories as, under ordinary conditions, can be secured only by lavish expenditure, and I have caused that expenditure to be unselfishly borne by the people of England. In a word, I have diminished our own territories, and enormously increased those of the White Czar ; and in a far greater degree I have enhanced his reputation and mutilated our own.

"Perhaps even more unalloyed gratification may be legitimately derived from the contemplation of the various measures I have adopted in connection with Egypt. Five years ago the financial, the social, even the political prospects of that ancient country were not devoid of hope. My bitterest enemies must admit that at least none of those prospects have ever been gloomier than they are to-day. By interfering too late with the seditious designs of Arabi Pasha, I established in Egypt a Government absolutely dependent for each moment of its existence upon the continuance of the support which I have engaged that my successors shall shortly withdraw from it. I have, by a course of total neglect, supplemented by tardy and ineffective opposition, fostered a religious rebellion in the Soudan which has already deprived my ally, the Khedive, of more than three-quarters of the territory that was nominally his, and which may yet be productive of the most serious danger to the remaining fourth part. In the successful performance of these duties I have spent many millions of English money, and many thousands of human lives, including those of hundreds of Englishmen, including the enthusiastic but impracticable Gordon. Thus much have I been permitted to destroy ; but it must not be forgotten that I have given a new and probably long lease of life to that traffic in slaves which fills so many Arab mouths with dates and dourah. It is especially gratifying to me to reflect that the same humane institution will be the means of providing a permanent asylum for the widows and orphans of many of those who perished through my humble means, or who may yet pay with their lives for the folly of trusting to mere promises of protection.

"As regards Europe, I rely on this simple comparison of what I found with what I leave behind me.

"I found the Empire of Germany friendly—nay, cordial ; I leave it reluctantly but firmly hostile.

"I found Austria an honoured ally ; I leave her insulted and estranged.

"I found France respectful ; I leave her insolent.

"I found the Russians baffled in their designs against the welfare of England ; I leave them in a blaze of unprecedented triumph.

"At home and abroad one unvarying note has run through the whole of my proceedings. I have never comprehended a situation ; I have never persevered *in a course of action ; I have never faced a foe* ; I have never stood by a friend ; I have always been too late.—I remain, my dear Lord Derby, yours very faithfully,

"W. E. Gladstone."

THE AFGHAN FRONTIER QUESTION.

The promised Blue-book on Central Asia was issued on Saturday. It consists of 197 pages, and the despatches run from December, 1883, to April 7, 1885. The latest and most exciting incidents on the frontier do not, therefore, find a place among these despatches. In a despatch of January 16th of this year M. de Staal expresses his belief that Her Majesty's Government persisted in rejecting the Russian proposals respecting a preliminary understanding between the two Governments as to the limits of the zone of delimitation, without even stating reasons for their refusal. This condition, M. de Giers points out, was indispensable in view of the territoral encroachments of the Afghans, and he asks Her Majesty's Government for a frank interchange of views. Enclosed in this despatch is a long review of the whole Afghan frontier question, and the negotiations in regard to it. The Russian Government therein propose a new frontier line running south of Zulfikar and Penjdeh, but leaving Maruchak to the Afghans.

In a despatch dated February 19th, Sir E. Thornton, writing to Lord Granville, states that M. de Giers had admitted that 150 Russian soldiers had advanced as far south as the Zulfikar Pass, General Komaroff having received information that the Afghan troops were advancing in that direction. On Sir E. Thornton pointing out how great the risk of conflict would thus become, M. de Giers stated that the most stringent orders had been issued to avoid a conflict, and he hoped that nothing of the sort would take place unless the Afghans should provoke it by attacking the Russians. M. de Giers, however, assured our Ambassador that no Russian troops would be allowed to pass beyond the line which the Russian Ambassador in London had been instructed to propose as the north-west frontier of Afghanistan. Lord Granville in transmitting this information to Sir P. Lumsden on February 26, adds :—"You should strongly urge the Afghan authorities not to advance." Sir Peter Lumsden telegraphing on February 19, states that Colonel Alikhanoff had informed him that he had been instructed by the Emperor to make the Afghan outposts retire at once to Ak Tepe. General Lumsden protested, and asked Her Majesty's Government for further instructions. In a telegram three days later, General Lumsden reported that Russian squadrons had advanced from Ouash Toshan, and forced the Afghan piquet, which retired. Colonel Alikhanoff sent General Lumsden the following :—"Whether you approve of it or not, my orders are that Russian troops should occupy the country as far as Pul-i-Khisti. Once established there, they should neither go on nor fight. I must carry out my orders." Telegraphing on the same day, later, Sir Peter Lumsden says :—"Russian troops to-day occupied Zulfikar Pass, Akrobat, Pul-i-Kkisti." Lord Granville, in a despatch to General Lumsden on March 3rd, says :—"Her Majesty's Government cannot advise the Afghans to attack the Russian troops in order to dislodge them from the positions they now occupy, but Her Majesty's Government consider that the further advance of the Russians should, subject to military considerations, be resisted by the Afghans. In the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, the policy of the Afghan authorities should be to maintain the *status quo* pending the result of negotiations which are still proceeding with the Government of Russia."

Telegraphing on March 4th from Gulran, General Lumsden says :—"The Sariks are again greatly excited, and are holding meetings to decide what course to adopt. It appears impossible to maintain any longer the passive attitude enforced on Afghans and adopted by Her Majesty's Government." Telegraphing on March 13th, Sir E. Thornton mentions a rumour that General Komaroff considers it necessary for the safety of the Russian forces that Penjdeh should be taken. Lord Granville thereupon urged our Ambassador at St. Petersburg to impress in the strongest manner upon the Russian Government that orders should be immediately given to prevent the proposed attack. Sir E. Thornton, telegraphing to Lord Granville on March 14th, gives the assurance of M. de Giers that there is no foundation for the rumour. Lord Granville, writing the Russian Ambassador on March 13th, answers the long despatch of M. de Giers of Jan. 16th, and the memorandum enclosed therein. His lordship expresses the regret of Her Majesty's Government that they are unable to agree to the line proposed by Russia, or the conditions annexed to it, but his lordship agrees that the lines proposed by the two Governments should be taken as the limits of a zone to which the inquiries of the Commissioners should be restricted. Lord Granville, writing to Sir E. Thornton on March 14th, requests him to ask the Russian Government that instructions may be sent to Colonel Alikhanoff to desist from instigating the Sariks of Penjdeh to rise. Earl Granville, writing to Sir E. Thornton on March 27th, informs him that if his Government are strongly impressed with the necessity of putting an end to the excitement with regard to the Afghan frontier which seems to be increasing in both countries, the importance to both of coming to a speedy and friendly settlement could not be overrated. His lordship points out that the engagements of Her Majesty's Government to the Ameer would compel them to regard as a hostile act any aggression upon his territory, of which Herat is a salient point. On the other hand, the Russian Government having spontaneously disclaimed any threatening intentions against Herat, Her Majesty's Government are in a favourable position for coming to a settlement satisfactory and honourable to Russia, to the Ameer, and to this country. M. de Giers expressed to Sir E. Thornton his entire acquiescence in the views of Lord Granville, in a long despatch on March 15, in which he replies to Lord Granville's communication of the 13th respecting the frontier zone, and adhering to the line first put forward, but at the same time expressing his opinion that the views of the two Governments harmonise sufficiently to form a practical basis for friendly negotiation. He believes, however, that the investigation on the spot would entail a great loss of time, without modifying the opinions of either party, and in the end the Commissioners would have to submit their differences to their respective Governments. M. de Giers disclaims on the part of Russia any hostile intentions towards any part of Afghanistan, and believes that the best means of arriving at an understanding and protecting friendly relations with England is to establish a good frontier between the respective spheres of influence of the two Powers.

Writing to Sir E. Thornton on April 4, Lord Granville says, after consultation with his colleagues on the previous day he informed M. de Staal that he could not conceal the disappointment with which recent communications from his Government regarding the Afghan boundary had been received. In their reply of March 19, Her Majesty's Government had endeavoured to make proposals affording reasonable grounds for agreement. In answer to this the Russian Government had replied by a despatch and memorandum which was to the effect that the Russian Government objected to the proposals of Her Majesty's Government, and on the other hand offered no counter proposal, but insisted upon the adoption of their own views in their entirety. His Lordship informed the Russian Ambassador that it was impossible for the British Government to proceed on a basis which substantially denied the equal footing of the two Powers. He asked M. de Staal to communicate his views to the Russian Government, from whom Her Majesty's Government hoped to hear again.

THE REVISED BIBLE.

After fifteen years of labour the revisers of the Old Testament have enabled the Oxford and Cambridge University Presses to issue the complete revised Bible, of which the New Testament was issued on the 17th of May, 1881. The Committee of Revisers was appointed by Convocation on the 6th of May, 1870, and but fifteen of the original company now remain. Ten have died and two have resigned. The vacancies on the Committee were from time to time filled up, but no new members have been added since October, 1875. The Revisers sat for eighty-five sessions, occupying 792 days of six hours, which terminated on the 20th of June last, so that eleven months from the completion of the copy some millions of Bibles were ready for delivery by the retailers in the hands of the public. In revising the Old Testament, in the first place each verse was read over, first in the original, and then in the Authorised Version, after which proposed alterations were considered. A bare majority decided these proposals in the first revision. In the second revision they were not retained unless supported by two-thirds of the Committee of Revisers, and the final revision, after the submission of the changes to many critics, was also settled by a like majority. The American revisers assisted those in England, and where a difference of opinion existed the points are stated in appendices.

In the preface, which is dated "Jerusalem Chamber, Westminster Abbey, July 10, 1884," the revisers set forth the bases upon which they have proceeded in their task. The main points of this are that the revisers have endeavoured "to introduce as few alterations

as possible into the text of the Authorised Version consistently with faithfulness," and "to limit as far as possible the expression of such alterations to the language of the Authorised and earlier English versions." The revisers go on to explain in detail their reasons for following the usage of the Authorised Version in regard to the word "Jehovah," for everywhere changing "the tabernacle of the congregation" to "the tent of meeting," for altering "meat offering" to "meal offering," for using the Hebrew word "Sheol" in many instances, for "hell" is used in the Authorised Version; and the Hebrew word "Ashera" for "grove."

The old division of the books into chapters and verses has been abandoned in favour of the arrangement in paragraphs, the numbering of the chapters and verses being, however, retained for convenience of reference, while in the poetical portions, besides the division into paragraphs, the revisers have adopted an arrangement in lines so as to exhibit the parallelism which is characteristic of Hebrew poetry.

The question which will first occur to many readers is as to the manner in which the proverbial expressions, those most familiar to all of English speech, are dealt with. Without attempting to note the majority of these, it cannot escape the attention of even a cursory reader that the expression of Job's wish, "Oh, that mine adversary had written a book" (xxxi. 35) has been changed to "Oh, that I had the indictment which my adversary had written," that the equally familiar exclamation of David, "I said in my haste, All men are liars" (Ps. cxvi. 11), has become "I said when I made haste to escape, All men are a lie"; while such a time-honoured quotation as that from Genesis (vi. 4), "There were giants in the earth in those days," is now, "The Nephelim were in the earth in those days." Other expressions of similarly frequent use for quotation have had to be corrected by the revisers. Reuben is no longer told (Gen. xlix. 4, "Unstable as water, thou shalt not excel," but "Unstable as water, have not thou the excellency." It is no more to be said, "Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them," (Ps. cxxvii., 5), but "Happy is the man that hath filled his quiver with them," and instead of "vanity and vexation of spirit," we have now to read "vanity and a striving after wind." The "apples of gold" of Prov. xxv. 11 are now encased "in figured work of silver," not in "pictures." The earliest verse of both Authorised and Revised Versions is the same, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth;" and the first alteration occurs in the second verse, where, instead of "And the earth was without form, and void," we now read "And the earth was waste, and void." A more striking alteration in the account of the Creation is that the formula, "And the evening and the morning were the first day," and so forth, becomes "And there was evening and there was morning, one day." "And there was evening and there was morning, a second day," and so through the week. The remainder of the story of the Creation is little changed, and the same may be said of the descriptions of the Fall and the Flood and the other main incidents of Genesis, or, in fact, of the whole Old Testament. In the case of the Ten Commandments there are only a few alterations, and these are but verbal, the most striking being that the Sixth Commandment, "Thou shalt not kill" (Ex. xx., 13), becomes "Thou shalt do no murder." It may be noted that the Fifth Commandment "Honour thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee," as it stands in the Prayer-Book, is "Honour thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee," in both the Authorised and the Revised Versions. The alteration which will create most attention is, in fact, the one already noted, namely, that of giving all the poetical portions in poetic form. The song of Miriam, the blessing of the Israelites by Balaam, the adjuration of Joshua to the sun and moon to stand still, and all similar passages are set out line by line, as also is the Book of Job, which is treated as one long poem, the first two chapters and a portion of the last being all that is given as prose. The Psalms and Proverbs are similarly dealt with, as also is "The Song of Solomon," as it is called in the Authorised Version, a title which has now given place to "The Song of Songs," the first verse justifying as it does each title —"The song of songs, which is Solomon's" —being the same in each version. "The Psalms"—not "The Book of Psalms" as of old—are divided into five books, Book I. comprising those from the 1st to the 41st, Book II. those from 42nd to the 72nd, Book III. those from the 73rd to the 89th, Book IV. those from the 90th to the 106th, and Book V. the remainder. The previous headings of the individual psalms, where such have appeared, are retained, and the only change likely to strike attention is that the instruction "Selah," which often occurs, is now placed in smaller type and in parenthesis, instead of being run on as an integral portion of the text, as in the Authorised Version. The Books of Ecclesiastes, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and the remainder of the prophets, are set as prose, but the Lamentations of Jeremiah appear as verse, and Jonah's prayer, when inside the great fish, is similarly treated, as also is the prayer of Habakkuk, which forms the third and concluding chapter of the book called by that prophet's name, the last sentence, "To the chief singer on my stringed instruments," as it appears in the Authorised Version, being set apart and changed to "For the chief musician on my stringed instruments" in the Revised. It may further be noted that, whereas in the earliest chapter of the Old Testament the first verse is unchanged by the Revisers, so in the latest is the last verse unchanged, the new Version, therefore, beginning and ending exactly like its predecessor of 1611; but in each case the next verse (the succeeding one in Genesis and the preceding one in Malachi) shows signs of alteration. The vision of dry bones in Ezekiel remains almost exactly as it was before, and in the Book of Zachariah very few changes of importance have been made, and the same may be said of the Book of Daniel. In the Book of Proverbs "a naughty person" becomes "a worthless person." In the same Book, "wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging," becomes "wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler."

The attention of a vast number of readers will be given to the textual alterations, in many cases minute, but still easily noted by those accustomed to the reading of the Scriptures. The 53rd chapter of Isaiah, commencing, "Who hath believeth our report, and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed?" is probably as well known as any chapter in the whole of the prophecies. In the first six verses the only alteration not merely verbal to be noted is "and as one from whom men hide their face," instead of, "and we hid as it were our faces from him." In the seventh verse the alteration is more striking. "He was oppressed, yet he humbled himself and opened not his mouth; as a lamb that is led to the slaughter and as a sheep that before her shearers is dumb; yea, he opened not his mouth," taking the place of "He was oppressed and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth." The eighth verse is similarly to be noted, appearing in the Revised Version as "By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who among them considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living? for the transgression of my people was he stricken," while in the Authorised Version it ran thus: "He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation, for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken." The remainder of the alterations in this chapter are very slight, and the same may be said of the 55th chapter of the same prophet, commencing in both versions, "Ho every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money come ye buy and eat; yea come buy wine and milk without money and without price." It is the same with the 23rd Psalm, "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." In the six verses there are but two alterations. In the third verse the statement, "He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake," becomes "He guideth one," while in the fifth verse the present tense, "Thou anointest my head with oil," is changed to the past, "Thou hast anointed." Referring to the manner in which the Revisers have dealt with obsolete words, the preface may be quoted:—"The principle by which they have been guided has been clear and consistent. Where an archaic word or expression was liable to be misunderstood, or at least was not perfectly intelligible, they have substituted for it another in equally good use at the time the Authorised Version was made, and expressing all that the archaism was intended to convey, but more familiar to the modern reader. In such cases the gain was greater than the loss. But in other instances where the word or expression, although obsolete, was not unintelligible, it was thought that the change would involve greater loss than gain, and the old rendering was therefore allowed to stand. More especially was this the case when the archaism was a perfectly correct rendering of the original, and there was no exact modern equivalent for it. The principle adopted by the Company will be best illustrated by two typical examples. The verb 'to ear' in the sense of 'to plough,' and the substantive 'earing' for 'ploughing,' were very reluctantly abandoned, and only because it was ascertained that their meaning was unknown to many persons of good intelligence and education. But it was easy to put in their place equivalents which had a pedigree of almost equal antiquity, and it would have been an excess of conservatism to refuse to substitute for an unintelligible archaism an expression to which no ambiguity could be attached. On the other hand, the word 'bolled' (Ex. ix. 31), which signifies 'podded for seed,' and is known in provincial dialects, has no synonym in literary English. To have discarded it in favour of a less accurate or more paraphrastic expression would have been to impoverish the language, and it was therefore left, because it exactly expresses the view which is taken of the meaning of the original."

The theory of the Revisers in this particular may be tested by some instances of their practice. The word "brigandine" occurs only twice in the Old Testament, and both times in Jeremiah, the Hebrews being exhorted (xlvi. 4) to "furbish the spears and put on the brigandines," and in the third verse of the 51st chapter the Almighty promises to raise an army against Babylon, and "against him that bendeth let the archer bend his bow, and against him that lifteth himself up in his brigandine." The Revised Version has substituted "coat of mail" in each case. For the word "cockatrice," there has been given "basilisk," with "adder" as a marginal alternative, "the wimples and the crisping-pins," only mentioned once (Is. iii. 22) have altogether disappeared, leaving nothing in their place. "Emerods" have occasionally to make way for "tumours" (1 Sam. v. 6), and sometimes are left untouched (Deut. xxviii. 27), while "habergeon" is rendered in Exodus (xxviii. 32) as a "coat of mail," and in Job (xli. 26) as "the pointed shaft," with "coat of mail" as a marginal equivalent. But while these words are changed, others, which to the ordinary observer will appear equally obsolete, remain, for we still read of the "cracknels" which Jeroboam's wife provided for the prophet Ahijah (1 Kings xiv. 3), and of Job's exclamation (ix. 33), "There is no daysman between us."

The connection of America with the Revision remains to be noted, and this is explained as follows:—"The Revisers had already made some progress, and had in fact gone twice through the Pentateuch, before they secured the co-operation of the American Old Testament Revision Company. The first revision of the several books was submitted to the consideration of the American revisers, and, except in the case of the Pentateuch, the English Company had the benefit of their criticisms and suggestions before they proceeded to the second revision. The second revision was in like manner forwarded to America, and the latest thoughts of the American revisers were in the hands of the English Company at their final review. In every instance the suggestions from America were treated with the same consideration as those proceeding from members of the English Company, and were adopted or rejected on their merits." It is added that those points on which the two bodies ultimately disagreed are placed on record at the end of the volume, this course, it may be remembered, being the same as was adopted in the case of the New Testament.

Although the Revised Version of the Old Testament was not on sale till Tuesday, the Archbishop of Canterbury, as stated by us last week, laid before the Queen on Friday a handsomely bound copy of the Standard Edition, and on Monday a copy was presented to the Prince of Wales.

The following notes as to the materials of the book may, perhaps, be of interest:—At the Oxford University's own paper mill, situated at Wolvercote, near Oxford, 375 tons of rags were consumed in making 250 tons of paper for its first issue—enough, that is to cover 2¼ square miles. It would go round the world in a strip of six inches wide, or say, if the pages were laid open one after another, it would go round the world. The sheets piled in reams as they leave the mill would make a column ten times the height of St. Paul's, or folded into books before binding at least one hundred times the height. The copies, which are being prepared by the Oxford University Press alone, would, if piled flat one upon another, make a column more than fourteen miles high, or 370 times the height of the Monument. If piled end on end they would reach seventy-four miles high, or 1,943 times the height of the Monument. It is hardly possible to give an idea of the number of skins which have been required for binding the copies, but it has been calculated that 1,560 goat skins have been used in binding the copies presented to the American Committee of Revision. A special Act of Congress has been passed to admit these copies into the United States free of duty.

Describing a "Visit to Oxford," in connection with the Revised Bible printing, the *Daily News* says:—

"This production of the Revised Bible is up to a certain point the joint work of the two great Universities, Oxford and Cambridge. The 'copy' has been supplied by the Revisers to both Universities, and both have forthwith put the work into type, Oxford setting up two sizes, and Cambridge two, and a fifth, 'a parallel edition'—an edition, that is, in which the Revised and the Unrevised Scriptures are printed side by side, page for page—has been divided between the two. When these various editions have been set up and stereotyped, the two Universities have exchanged plates; so that the formes prepared by one have been freely at the service of the other, and each then goes its own way. Up to this point of stereotyping plates the two Universities have been in partnership. The actual printing, however, each has done for itself, and to whatever extent each has thought best. Of the two Presses, the Oxford is considerably the larger, and the work has of course been one of unusual magnitude even for Oxford. It is a somewhat curious coincidence that this vast undertaking should have been completed just 300 years from the establishment of the University Press. Although there seems to have been printing done here at a considerably earlier date, there had been no press going in connection with Oxford University for nearly three-quarters of a century, when in 1585 a press was permanently established, the great Earl of Leicester having, as it appears, contributed £100 towards the necessary funds. What the great Earl of Leicester would have thought of his investment to-day it would be interesting to learn if one could only take his Lordship round and show him what is going on here. It need hardly be said that it was not in its present quarters that that early printing press was set up. It had several shifts before it attained to its present palatial-looking edifice, one of its shifts having been in a building provided from the profits of Lord Clarendon's *History of the Great Rebellion*—so at least it is said by the local historians—and known consequently as the Clarendon Press, a name which is in popular parlance sometimes applied to the present establishment. . . . . Though here and there somewhat old-fashioned in its methods, the Oxford University Press can be very smart in its movements when occasion arises. It may be within the recollection of many persons that some eight or ten years ago it performed a feat which Mr. Gladstone at the time spoke of as 'the climax and consummation of the art of printing.' It was on the occasion of the Caxton Quarcentenary. A hundred copies of the Bible were commenced at two o'clock on the morning of a commemoration meeting at South Kensington, and before two o'clock in the afternoon a copy was handed on to the platform perfectly finished. The book with its 1,052 pages had been printed, dried, pressed, sent up to London, collated, sewn, rolled, bound in Turkey morocco, its edges gilt, and the cover embossed with the University arms and an appropriate inscription, in less than twelve hours. The feat that Mr. Hart and his collaborateurs have had to perform has been of a somewhat different kind, and scarcely admits of being presented in just such a telling form; but it has been on a much more difficult and serious scale. . . . . It should be observed that this new publication of Bibles is over and above the ordinary work of the establishment, it having very curiously been found that the issue of the Revised New Testament has not affected the sale of the Authorised editions of Oxford Bibles to any appreciable extent, and the ordinary work of printing Bibles has been carried on upon the assumption that the publication now about to take place will cause little falling off in the customary demand for 'Authorised' editions as distinct from the Revised. Double duties have therefore been thrown upon the establishment, and a serious difficulty presented itself in the operation of the law which very properly restricts the employment of young people in factories, both boys and girls being largely engaged here. The work could not have been done without night work, and for night work these youngsters were not available. In Oxford, however, as elsewhere this winter, large numbers of people have been out of work, and amongst them were a great many mechanics and labourers who had been at some period in their history engaged in putting on and taking off sheets from printing machines, and who without much difficulty have fallen back on their early occupation. When, therefore, the machine boys have knocked off work in the evening, a motley mob of labourers, jobbing gardeners, cattle drovers, carpenters, and so forth, have set to work for the night at Bible-printing, and have thus eased their way through what would have otherwise been a very hard time for them. They no doubt regard this special business as something of a special providence; the authorities here appear to consider that it was so many of them being out of work just when they were wanted which really constituted the special dispensation. For six months the press has been working a day and a half, and for the past three months double shifts—working night and day, that is.

"It has been reported that American agents have been eagerly on the look-out for means of procuring an advance copy of the new Bible, and that they were prepared to pay £1,000 for one. It need hardly be said, however, that careful precautions have been taken to thwart any such enterprise. The University having taken up an enormous amount of capital and incurred a great amount of trouble and responsibility, were not inclined to permit themselves to be forestalled in the market, even if any American firm should be disposed to attempt it, which perhaps may be regarded as doubtful, considering the commanding reputation of the University presses. But however this may be, ample precautions have been taken, and it has been simply impossible for any considerable portion of the new work to find its way out of the building, even spoiled sheets, every scrap of them, being carefully garnered up or destroyed day by day."

CONSTRUCTION v. DESTRUCTION.

In a long letter to the *Tablet*, the Rev. Dr. Lee, Vicar of All Saints', Lambeth, contends that the true policy is, not to destroy, but to maintain and mend the Church of England without breaking it up, to regain what has been lost, so as to restore visible Corporate Communion with the Western Church. That the Tractarian Movement began, and for years carried on, the good work of removing misrepresentations is shown by the various restorations effected, in which long-cherished prejudices have been laid to rest, mistakes admitted, and old truths regained. In most of the ancient Cathedrals, where the Abomination of Desolation was set up by the Poynets, Ridleys, Bales, and Aylmers of old, beneficent restorations have been effected. During the last half-century nearly 6,000 new churches and chapels have been built in England, and more than that number of old sanctuaries creditably restored.

Just as a breach of unity sealed divisions, and dangerous sects and everlasting wranglings sprang from the deplorable Tudor changes, so ought peace and re-union to spring from and become the direct outcome and final crown of the Oxford Movement. The recent pitiable policy of the Ritualists in matters controversial is, however, greatly at variance with that of forty years ago. In several particulars this movement, instead of being *constructive* is now actually *destructive*, although a large portion of the English clergy—many of them retiring, uncontroversial, and peace-loving—have no sympathy whatsoever with the blatant and boisterous noise of mere professional controversialists, who are doing their best to render future peace and unity, humanly speaking, impossible.

The success of such a book as *Plain Reasons* is, observes Dr. Lee, one of the darkest signs of the times. This work is mercilessly unfair, and altogether untrustworthy; and it will very possibly destroy the faith of many. Independently of eighteen apologetic letters published from time to time, each containing retractations, emendations, and corrections, the author, in a new edition, prefixed no less than twenty-nine pages of closely printed "additions and corrections"—a somewhat startling literary performance for a person who claims to hector and teach other people, and whose book in its totality does not extend to 200 pages. Every fresh edition has received fresh corrections, while in several cases the corrections are equally inaccurate with the statements presumed to be corrected. Dr. Lee calculates the various *errata* and explanatory additions referred to as amounting to exactly 201, some, of course, being more important than others.

Dr. Lee cites some strong expressions of disapproval of the book to show that, among Anglicans competent to form an opinion, the new and disastrous policy embodied in *Plain Reasons* is by many repudiated; its method being mistrusted, its very gross and uncharitable language deplored, and its conclusions rejected.

For instance, an Honorary Canon of Oxford Cathedral writes that the plan of appealing to mere reason, and bringing everything down to its own level, in dealing with Romanism, is likely to be turned to a deadly account in dealing with the great doctrines of the Trinity and of God manifest in the flesh, and he adds that he knows two at least whom the book has made first anti-Roman, and then scoffing infidels. Another clergyman of the diocese of Oxford writes in a similar strain. Mr. Brabazon, of Stoke, has said that a book which has been corrected in nearly a hundred cases of misstatement should have been first submitted to some competent author before being put into print; and he severely reprobates dishonesty in controversy, specially in religious controversy. Among other opinions quoted is that of the Rev. Wentworth Hankey, of Christ Church, Oxford, who has written to express the "shame and indignation" with which he has from the first regarded the publication of *Plain Reasons*. Since the issue of translations into French and Italian the claim of the work to be "defensive and not aggressive" can, he says, no longer be sustained; and considering what manner of men are the vast majority of the Church's enemies in France and Italy, he protests in the name of our common Christianity against any such attempt to weaken the hands of the Church. So, too, the Rev. E. W. Gilliam remarks of *Plain Reasons:* "Entirely negative in character, it is moreover a course, vituperative, brutal book, without piety and without justice—a book whose spirit has nothing in unison with a holy and upright mind." Dr. Lee is informed that Canon Liddon, Canon Carter, Bishop King, Prebendary West of Lincoln, Mr. R. M. Benson of Cowley, Mr. Chancellor Wagner, and others, have expressed their dislike to the method, assertions, and style of reasoning of *Plain Reasons*, in terms more or less in harmony with the various sentiments already quoted.

Dr. Lee concludes, therefore, that for more than three and a half centuries in England, destruction, negations, and bitter controversies have done more than enough evil and mischievous work: and that the Established Church—now confronted by indifference, Atheism, sectarian spite, and Agnosticism—must make a zealous endeavour to restore what is wanting, and to secure a restitution of what has been lost—the original scheme (so far as there was one) of Newman and Pusey, of Manning, Keble, Froude, and Ward.

The claim of Mr. John Fraser, of Carnarvon, to the Lovat peerage and estates, on Tuesday came before the Committee of Privileges of the House of Lords, the present Lord Lovat appearing in opposition. On behalf of the claimant, an application for the postponement of the hearing was made, and acceded to by their Lordships, who fixed the 17th of June for the hearing.

MESSRS. HATCHARDS' LIST.

NEW BOOK BY BISHOP OXENDEN.

SHORT COMMENTS on ST. MATTHEW and ST. MARK.
For Family Worship. Crown 8vo, 3s. 6d. [Just published.

Just published, crown 8vo, cloth, price 6s.

ANGLICAN HYMNOLOGY.
Being an Account of the 325 Standard Hymns of the highest merit according to the verdict of the whole Anglican Church.
By the Rev. JAMES KING, M.A., Vicar of St. Mary's, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Authorised Lecturer to "The Palestine Exploration Fund."

Just published, fcap. 8vo, cloth, 2s. 6d.

THROUGH the GORSE: a Village Story.
By Lady HOPE.

Just published, fcap. 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.

MORE HALF HOURS with MY GIRLS.
By Lady BAKER (Amy Marryat).

TRAVELLERS' TALK on ENGLAND'S CRISIS.
By the Rev. SAMUEL WAINWRIGHT, DD., Author of "Modern Avernus," &c. Crown 8vo, 5s.

"A valuable book, and will well repay careful study. Sparkling with apt illustration and happy epigram, these suggestive discussions will make many pause to think. Although it can be profitably dipped into at odd moments, it is most certainly one of those books that 'are to be read.' Almost every page bears evidence of wide study and deep thought."—Record.

"A really enjoyable book, recalling the days of our youth and the novels of Mr. Radcliffe."—Morning Post.

THOUGHTS for the SICK. With Prayers and Hymns.
By A. L. M. With Preface by M. E. TOWNSEND.
Fcap. 8vo, cloth, 1s. 6d.; paper cover, 1s.

"Tender, sympathetic, and remarkably real: will be found excellent for occasional use in parish ministrations."—Literary Churchman.

"Very clear, simple, and suggestive, and the book is altogether one that will provide light and comfort by the way."—Christian Treasury.

By the Rev. F. BOURDILLON, Author of "Bedside Readings."

A LAMP AND A LIGHT.
Short and simple Chapters on Texts of Scripture.
By the Rev. F. BOURDILLON, Author of "Bedside Readings," &c. Fcap. 8vo, cloth, 2s.

"Short and pithy expositions on well-know texts."—Ecclesiastical Gazette.

"Sweetly persuasive, and tenderly comforting."—Sword and Trowel.

"Impressive, and well calculated to produce lasting results for good."—Rock.

THE PANOPLY; or, the Whole Armour of God.
A Practical Exposition of Ephesians vi. 10-20. Fcap. 8vo, 2s.
"Well calculated to assist the believer, especially when young in the faith, in his Christian course. The whole book is excellent."—Record.

SHORT SERMONS for FAMILY READING.
Two Series. Fourth Edition. Fcap. 8vo, cloth, 2s. 6d. each.
"Well approved for the purpose for which they are intended."—John Bull.
"Plain and pointed."—Churchman.
"In addition to the *sine qua non* of soundness and doctrine, they possess the excellence of simplicity of thought and style, and of direct practical application of God's truth to daily life."—Record.

HATCHARDS, 187, PICCADILLY, LONDON.

HEAL & SON.

BEDSTEADS.

3ft. IRON FRENCH from 10s. 6d.
3ft. BRASS FRENCH from 48s. } 200 fixed for Inspection.

BEDDING.

MATTRESSES, 3ft., from 11s.
A NEW SPRING MATTRESS, warranted good and serviceable, at a very Moderate Price. 3ft., 32s.; 4ft. 6in., 40s.
THIS WITH A TOP MATTRESS—3ft., 20s.; 4ft. 6in., 29s. makes a most comfortable Bed, and cannot be surpassed at the price.

BEDROOM FURNITURE.

PLAIN SUITES from £3. DECORATED SUITES from £8 10s.
SUITES of WHITE ENAMEL, similar to that in the Health Exhibition, from £14.
ASH and WALNUT SUITES from £12 12s.
SCREENS, suitable for Bedrooms, 21s.

EASY CHAIRS FROM 35s.

COUCHES from 75s.
BOOKCASES from 38s. and BOOKSHELVES from 7s. 6d.
WRITING TABLES from 25s.
OCCASIONAL TABLES from 10s. 6d.

A Quantity of Chintz, Cretonne, and Damask.
AT HALF PRICE, OLD PATTERNS.
Illustrated Catalogue free by post.

195 to 198, Tottenham Court Road.

EDE AND SON,
ROBE MAKERS,

By Special Appointment,
TO HER MAJESTY AND THE ROYAL FAMILY
THE LORD CHANCELLOR, THE BISHOPS
CORPORATION OF LONDON, &c.

ECCLESIASTICAL AND UNIVERSITY GOWNS
of every description.

LAWN SLEEVES, ROCHET AND CHIMERE.

Surplices for Clergy and Choir,

Hoods,	Cassocks,	Scarves.
Stoles,	Bands,	Clergy Collars.
College Caps,	Band Cases,	Sermon Cases.

FULL-SLEEVE GOWNS FOR PRESENTATION

PEERS', LEGAL, AND CORPORATION ROBES.
Established 1689.

94, CHANCERY LANE, LONDON.

THE LIBRARY.
3d. in the 1s. Discount.
MESSRS. HATCHARD,
BOOKSELLERS to the ROYAL FAMILY,
187, PICCADILLY, LONDON.

A large and carefully-selected Stock of
ALL THE NEW AND STANDARD BOOKS
In Cloth and Leather Bindings.

CHILDREN'S PICTURE AND STORY BOOKS
Also
BIBLES, PRAYERS, CHURCH SERVICES, &c.
Post Orders promptly executed.

NOTICE.

The JOHN BULL may be obtained on the day of publication, at Messrs. SMITH and SON'S Railway Book-stalls, or of any Newsagent, at 6d. per copy.

CHARGE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS.

Advertisements of Public Companies, 1s. per line.

General Trade Advertisements (Reduction for Series), 9d. per line.

Notices of Births, Marriages, and Deaths inserted for 3s. 6d. each.

Advertisements over Leader, 1s. per line.

N.B.—Advertisements from the country must be prepaid; sums not exceeding 5s. may be sent in stamps; above that amount in Post Office Orders, made payable at the FLEET STREET Money Order Office.

***** All Cheques and P.O. Orders to be made payable to E. D. MADDICK, 6, Whitefriars-street.**

CITY OF LONDON TRUSS SOCIETY,
FINSBURY SQUARE,
For the Relief of the Ruptured Poor throughout the Kingdom.
Established 1807.
Patron—H.R.H. the PRINCE of WALES.
The importance of this Charity to the suffering poor of both sexes and all ages may be gathered from the fact that 406,000 have been already relieved.
The proportion of aggravated cases to simple cases is larger than it was formerly; hence more expensive instruments are required, greater cost is entailed, and increased Funds are needed. Subscriptions and donations will be thankfully received by Messrs. Bosanquet, Salt, and Co., 73, Lombard-street, E.C.; and by the Secretary, at the Institution, 35, Finsbury-square.
JOHN WHITTINGTON, Secretary.

ROYAL MATERNITY CHARITY.
Established 1757.
PATRON: HER MAJESTY the QUEEN.
For delivering poor lying-in women at their own homes in all parts of London, marriage and necessity the only tests of eligibility.
More than 3,000 poor women were attended last year in their hour of trial by first-rate physicians and midwives.
DONATIONS will be THANKFULLY RECEIVED by Messrs. Robarts, Lubbock, and Co.; or at the Charity's House, 31, Finsbury-square, by
J. W. LONG, Secretary.
31, Finsbury-square, London.

METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL,
KINGSLAND ROAD, N.
City Offices, 163, Bishopsgate Street, E.C.
THE ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will take place at WILLIS'S ROOMS, St. James's, on Wednesday, June 24.
BARON FERDINAND DE ROTHSCHILD
in the Chair.
The Committee APPEAL most earnestly for FUNDS to meet BUILDING AND CURRENT EXPENSES.
The expenditure last year was largely in excess of the Income.
CONTRIBUTIONS will be most thankfully received by the Bankers, Messrs. Glyn, Mills, and Co., 67, Lombard Street, E.C.; by the Chairman, Joseph Fry, Esq., 21, Gresham House, Old Broad Street, E.C.; and by
GEO. CROXTON, Secretary.

MARRIAGE LAW DEFENCE UNION.
TRACTS.
Vol. I. Third Edition containing Tracts 1 to 43, also Historical Preface. Cloth, 2s. 6d., post free, 3s.
At the Office, 20, Cockspur-street, Charing-cross, S.W., Messrs. Smith and Son's Railway Bookstalls; or E. W. Allen, 4, Ave Maria-lane, E.C.

SCRIPTURE READERS' SOCIETY for IRELAND.—Established 1822.
PRESIDENT—The Right Hon. the EARL OF SHAFTESBURY, K.G.
Offices: 27, Lower Pembroke-street, Dublin, and 9, Paternoster-row, London.
Full particulars, Reports, &c., can be obtained post free on application to the Secretary, Capt. JAS. KEARNEY WHITE.

THE NEW BOOK SEASON.—NOTICE.

ALL THE BEST NEW BOOKS ARE IN CIRCULATION AT

MUDIE'S SELECT LIBRARY.

SUBSCRIPTION — ONE GUINEA PER ANNUM.

Prospectuses postage-free on application.

MUDIE'S SELECT LIBRARY (Limited),
30 to 34, NEW OXFORD STREET.
281, Regent-street, W.; and 2, King-street, Cheapside.

SCHWEITZER'S
COCOATINA,
Anti-Dyspeptic Cocoa or Chocolate Powder.

GUARANTEED PURE SOLUBLE COCOA, WITH THE EXCESS OF FAT EXTRACTED.

THE FACULTY pronounce it "the most nutritious, perfectly digestible beverage for BREAKFAST, LUNCHEON, or SUPPER, and invaluable for invalids and children."

Highly commended by the entire Medical Press.

Being without sugar, spice, or other admixture, it suits all palates, keeps for years in all climates, and is four times the strength of cocoas THICKENED yet WEAKENED with starch, &c. and IN REALITY CHEAPER, than such mixtures, made instantaneously with boiling water, a teaspoonful to a Breakfast Cup costing less than a halfpenny.

Adopted as a Medical comfort in the Royal Navy.

COCOATINA A LA VANILLE is the most delicate, digestible, cheapest Vanilla Chocolate, and may be taken when other chocolate is prohibited.

In tins at 1s. 6d., 3s., 5s. 6d., &c. By Chemists and Grocers.

Sole Proprietors, H. SCHWEITZER and Co., 10, Adam-street, Strand, London, W.C.

ANTIQUE FURNITURE.—517. Mahogany Chippendale corner Cupboard, top part enclosed by glass doors, £12 10s. 519. Inlaid mahogany Card Table, £4 15s. 524. Helmet-shape copper Coal Box, £1 1s. 531. 2ft. 6in. walnut Bureau Bookcase, £11 10s. 542. Inlaid oak corner Cupboard £3 10s. 557. Mahogany Card Table, with carved ball and claw feet, £5 5s. 584. Mahogany Chippendale centre Table, with shelf under, £6 6s. 598. 2ft. 5in. oak Kneehole Dressing Table, £3 3s. 605. Mahogany Chippendale Arm Chair in canvas, £4 10s. 625. 6ft. inlaid mahogany Sideboard, £14 10s. 634. Mahogany oval Pembroke Table, £2 17s. 6d. 636. Lac Cabinet, 15 15s.—JOHN MILNER, 380, Great Portland-street (opposite Weymouth-street), London, W.

JOHN BULL.

LONDON, May 23.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

Little doubt remains that difficulties have arisen to retard the conclusion of the English capitulation to Russia. The announcement that the Guards have been detained at Alexandria on their way home from the Soudan is designed either to allow the world to perceive that all risk of war with Russia is not yet at an end, or else as a reply to French pretensions to interfere in Egypt. On the former supposition, it is scarcely probable that any deep impression will be produced on the Russian Government by this step after the recent pleasant experiences it has obtained by the amenability to coarse pressure that characterises Mr. GLADSTONE'S Ministry. The Radical Ministers, with their accustomed reticence, have afforded no indication of the nature of the obstacles that impede the settlement. And rumour, is of course, busy with suggestions. It is hinted that the frontier which has been agreed to by M. DE STAAL and M. LESSAR in London is not acceptable to the Ministers at St. Petersburg. But there is some reason to believe that Russia has taken the opportunity of indirectly advancing far more serious pretensions on the subject of Afghanistan than have hitherto been formulated. It is said that Russia not only refuses to abide by the undertaking that Afghanistan should remain wholly outside the sphere of Russian influence, but that it advances claims which would practically exclude English influence from Afghan territory. Objections are raised, it is reported, to the fortification of Herat under the direction of English officers, and to any measures of fortification on the Afghan frontier. And the Russian Government is said to demand that a Russian diplomatic agent shall henceforward reside at Cabul. It is to be hoped that events will justify Lord KIMBERLEY'S reassuring statements on these points. The English people may well long for one hour of Lord PALMERSTON, who would have required no longer time to deal effectually with the Russian claims. And they may well regret the days when Lord BEACONSFIELD secured for England peace with honour. The continuance of Mr. GLADSTONE'S Ministry in office is rendering war inevitable, and war will come after disgrace and dishonour callously submitted to, and after disaster meekly endured.

There is no diminution in the difficulties of the position that the English Government endeavours to maintain in Egypt. The folly and feebleness of its Egyptian policy combine to involve disaster and discredit. The indefensible decision to surrender the Soudan is vehemently condemned by men of all parties in England who have any claim to political authority or statesmanlike judgment. The treacherous abandonment of the friendly natives to the vengeance of the followers of the MAHDI shocks the public conscience. And there is a bitter feeling of indignation at the thought that all the advantages which have been won by the sacrifice of brave English lives, and the squandering of hard-earned English treasure, are to be wantonly thrown away. It is apparently intended that England is to fulfil the *rôle* of pulling the chestnuts out of the fire for the profit of other Powers. There is little doubt that the Radical Government is prepared to hand over Souakim to Italy, if Italy is ready to pursue the policy of adventure upon which it has entered in the Red Sea. Lord HARTINGTON'S statements as to the impossibility of allowing a foreign Power to hold the Red Sea ports, which threaten the flank of our communications with India, might be regarded as a guarantee against the perpetration of any similar folly by the Cabinet of which he was the spokesman. But there is absolutely no security that the present Government will not this week proceed to measures which they have most unhesitatingly condemned in the week that is passed. In Egypt itself the Ministerial policy is overwhelmed with fresh failures. The *Bosphore Egyptien*, whose sole object is the vilifying of the English Administration, has reappeared, strong in the protection of the French Government. It was understood that M. DE FREYCINET would be content with the abject apologies made for the violation of the domicile of a French subject, and that the scurrilous print would cease to exist. But the French Government is apparently intent upon emphasising its hostility to England. In the meantime the European Powers are in no hurry to ratify the Financial Convention which Mr. GLADSTONE gave the English Parliament a day or so to consider and an evening to discuss, on the plea that the least delay would lead to the disaster of Egyptian bankruptcy. The Egyptian Government has proceeded to deduct five per cent. on the dividends of the debt, as if the Convention had already been formally adopted by the Powers. As might have been foreseen, the Powers have at once protested, and the Egyptian Ministers have relinquished a course that was manifestly illegal, but was, doubtless, not ventured upon except with the foolish and feeble countenance of the English Ministry. In the meantime, the future of the Suez Canal is being discussed at the Commission which is holding its sessions in Paris. The English Government is thus confronted with proposals that are directly aimed at the welfare and security of the British Empire. The issue of the Conference must be shortly known. It is, perhaps, too much to hope that on this question at least Mr. GLADSTONE and his colleagues will hesitate before

they sacrifice the Imperial interests committed to their charge. One thing is certain—that so long as the present Ministry of Misfortune remains in power England will find its interests incessantly harassed and attacked, and its safety always in jeopardy.

Lord SALISBURY and Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL have both taken occasion during the week to review at some length the position of affairs. The importance of public discussion at the present juncture, when it is of the most serious moment that the English people should be thoroughly well informed on the critical condition in which five years of Mr. GLADSTONE's Government has placed the British Empire, was pointed out with much vigour and force by Lord SALISBURY. The only check upon the arbitrary power which Mr. GLADSTONE's Government enjoys in consequence of the absolute subservience to the PRIME MINISTER of the majority of the House of Commons rests in the influence of public opinion. It is to public opinion that appeal must be made against the follies of Ministerial policy, and the work of informing and enlightening public opinion is just now the highest duty that devolves upon men of political position and political independence. The castigation of Ministerial policy abroad that was forthcoming from Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL was marked by his customary incisive invective and caustic comment. The references made by Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL to Irish policy and to the renewal of the Crimes Act will, however, excite considerable suspicion. It is, of course, quite true that the necessity for the continuance of exceptional legislation against crime proves the utter failure of the remedial measures of Mr. GLADSTONE. It would be eminently satisfactory if there were no occasion for renewing the Crimes Act. But it is absolutely certain that Mr. GLADSTONE would not ask for its renewal except under pressure of the knowledge that law and order cannot be maintained in Ireland without its aid. It is to be hoped that Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL's remarks do not imply that he is ready to enter into an unholy alliance with Mr. PARNELL and the Irish Revolutionists and Mr. MORLEY and the English Radicals, to withhold from the Irish Government the powers that are required for the repression of anarchy. If this is the case, Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL will act in absolute opposition to the views and convictions of the Tory party, and will strengthen the doubts of those who deride his claims to be regarded as a serious politician.

The prophecy that the objectionable principles of Mr. GLADSTONE's Irish Land Bill would speedily be introduced into proposals of legislation for Great Britain has been soon fulfilled. The Crofters Bill that the LORD ADVOCATE introduced this week aims at extending the predatory policy that has been pursued in Ireland to the Highlands and islands of Scotland, where a large population is sunk in destitution from economic causes similar to those that prevail in Ireland, and has recently resorted to the Irish methods of endeavouring to obtain the amelioration of their condition. The Crofters Bill proposes to give to the Scotch crofters Fair Rent and Fixity of Tenure, reserving its benefits for those who pay more than £6 a year of annual rental. Thus it is confessed that it is impossible to deal, even by similar legislation, with the worst cases of poverty. Whilst the deepest sympathy must be felt for the indigent population, whom it is proposed to relieve at the expense of their landlords, it is impossible to admit the efficacy, any more than the equity, of the suggested remedial measures. The tendency of the proposals is to retain a population under conditions that at the best can only enable them to eke out a bare subsistence, and to stereotype methods of existence which involve cruel privations and hardship. It would be far better to provide for draining off the surplus population to Canada, Australia, or South Africa, where a fitting field is open for the energies of a hardy race, and where there is no unequal battle to be waged with unfavourable economic and climatic conditions. The fate of the present measure will this Session doubtless depend upon the reception it meets with from the Highland proprietors whose rights are invaded. To the attempt to make the State an earthly Providence, which is the characteristic of similar legislative proposals, the fatal objection lies that it is doomed to ultimate, but inevitable, failure.

It is exceedingly satisfactory to believe that the revolt in the North-west of Canada by the half-breeds under the leadership of LOUIS RIEL has been promptly suppressed by the energetic action of the Dominion Government. The great danger was that a movement insignificant in itself might assume formidable proportions in consequence of the sympathy and active co-operation of the Indian tribes. But the Indians have for the most part showed their traditional loyalty to the authorities, and only an insignificant number have actively sided with RIEL. The taking of Batoche and the capture of RIEL will doubtless be speedily followed by the complete pacification of the North-West Territory. There appears to be every disposition on the part of the Dominion Government to satisfy any plausible claims that the half-breeds can advance, and there is no reason to believe that there will be any cessation in the good relations which have always subsisted between the Indians and the Colonial authorities that are in happy contrast with the frontier history of the United States. The sympathy that the French Canadians are understood to express for RIEL is purely due to the sentiment of race and religion. But regard for similar sentimental considerations ought not to influence the Canadian Government in dealing out merited punishment to the ringleaders in the recent insurrection.

THE SITUATION TO-DAY.

The adjournment of Parliament for the brief Whitsuntide Recess finds the country surrounded by circumstances, as Sir WALTER BARTTELOT observed on Thursday, absolutely unparalleled in their depressing and adverse character. No wonder that Mr. GLADSTONE betrays nervous irritability and hints at his proximate retirement from office. No wonder that the Radical section of the Cabinet should begin to exhibit an intention of breaking off from their Whig allies and of making their own terms with the new Democratic Power. The game which Mr. CHAMBERLAIN and Sir CHARLES DILKE are playing is clear enough. The former's celebrated Ransom utterance of last January, which this week constituted the theme of Lord SALISBURY's merciless criticisms and pungent ridicule, was an audacious and definite bid for the support of Poverty. At last, as has long been foreseen would be the case, both Mr. CHAMBERLAIN and Sir CHARLES DILKE are prepared to declare publicly their adhesion to the Home Rule programme. They perceive that the time has come for launching their own vessel. The Cabinet of which they are members has served their turn. Now they are prepared to break it up unless their colleagues will yield to their dictation in the matter of the renewal of the Irish Coercion Acts. That the Whig element will give in to the Radical may probably be taken for granted, but the truce can only postpone for a brief period the final catastrophe. The most infamous and most despicable Ministry that England has ever been cursed with is beset on every side with the evils that it has itself created. No matter in which direction we turn, the prospect is equally dark. Europe is combined against England—that is the summing-up of our national position.

The much-rejoiced-over Agreement with Russia—where is it to-day? As to the ridiculous arbitration-scheme for the decision of the rights and wrongs of the Penjdeh "incident," who now thinks it hardly worth mentioning? The affair is very nearly "ancient history already," and yet the arbitrator—Mr. GLADSTONE announced on Thursday—is not so much as appointed. To continue to play out the arbitration farce is sheer absurdity. What Russia thinks of it may be inferred from the CZAR's presentation of a diamond-hilted sword to the very officer whose conduct at Penjdeh is, in fact, impugned. Next as to the rest of the so-called "understanding" with the Russian Government. The "understanding" was that England should surrender every single territorial claim advanced by Russia, with just one exception (which was duly made the most of by our Muscovite advocates in London), and we were called upon to admire and praise the moderate and conciliatory attitude of Russia in consenting to evacuate the Zulfikar Pass. And now it seems that, after all, Russia refuses to do anything of the kind, and—worse than this—that her attitude has become more menacing, more exacting, and more peremptory than ever. Though the Government is determined to leave the country in the dark on the subject, so far as official information goes, it appears more than probable that Russia not only claims Meruchak as a dependency of Penjdeh, but that it also demands the immediate cessation of all defensive preparations by the AMEER. Lord KIMBERLEY has, indeed, categorically denied that Russia has, as yet, put forward any claim to maintain a diplomatic envoy at Cabul; but the belief is general that it is her intention to do so. There is nothing in the least degree surprising in all this. What can be more natural than the hope and belief of Russia that men who have already yielded so much to pressure are prepared to make a still further surrender, if only they are squeezed enough?

Unhappily, all this, bad as it is, by no means exhausts the tale of our difficulties abroad—not difficulties which have arisen by the force of circumstances, but difficulties deliberately brought upon themselves by our wisest and best of Governments. Nothing can be more serious than the situation in Egypt. The coming storm with respect to the Suez Canal has long been brewing. In vain our Government endeavours to resist the combination of Europe against us. The answer of the Powers is the protest against the five per cent. tax on the Egyptian debt. The correspondence, just published, with reference to the *Bosphore Egyptien* incident, is of itself full of significance as to the determination of France to assert, if possible, her superiority over us in Egypt. And now we have this story of the reason why the Guards have been stopped at Alexandria on their way home from Souakim. Is it true that the Government has proofs in its possession of a plot for fomenting an outbreak in Alexandria, to be made the excuse for an immediate landing of French troops? We see no violent improbability in a report which is entirely consistent with what is known of the policy of intrigue habitually pursued by France in Egypt. The upshot of all is that it is clear we have to face a combined determination of all Europe to oust us from Egypt. That is a fact so clear now, that no one can fail to realise it. For this disastrous state of things there was but one remedy, and that was that Parliament should express the feeling of the country by putting an end to the present Government in England. Unfortunately, with a House of Commons reduced to a condition of disgraceful impotence and abject servility, with, as Lord SALISBURY has observed, its independence manifestly gone, the regular Constitutional remedy is practically in abeyance. The national affairs are being brought to the verge of hopeless ruin, and yet the nation itself is powerless to interfere. In such a condition of affairs it becomes an urgent necessity to appeal to the feeling of the country by every other means. Discussion in public meeting has now assumed an importance which once did not belong to it; and it is to be hoped that no opportunity will be lost of arousing the country to a sense of the critical position in which its affairs are now placed.

THE MINISTRY AND RUSSIA.

To Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL undoubtedly belongs the credit of having discovered that the GLADSTONE Administration does not stand in quite so desperate a position as that which most people have lately imagined it to occupy. We cannot but admit that the fact of Lord DERBY not having yet deserted the Government is a sign full of good omen for at least the temporary stability of that much abused body of men. Yet the air is rife with rumours and reports of a far from hopeful complexion. Mr. GLADSTONE's intimation on Monday that his "future intervention in political conflicts is much more likely to be measured by weeks than by months, and certainly by months more than by years" has been taken to signify his approaching retirement from public life. What lends colour to this view is the well-known tendency of the speaker to leave his party to extricate themselves as best they may from the scrapes into which he has led them. But Mr. GLADSTONE has so often disappointed our hopes of his proximate retirement, that we find it difficult to believe that we are really to be rid of him at last. In this case, not even the wish that he would go can beget the thought that he will go. The idea of his retirement is, in fact, far too good to be true. The other rumours relating to the Ministry shape themselves into a statement that the dissensions in the Cabinet have led to something very like a crisis. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN and Sir CHARLES DILKE have, it is believed, threatened to resign unless they are allowed to dictate to their colleagues the policy to be pursued in Ireland. The motion of which Mr. MORLEY gave notice on Thursday night seems intended to strengthen the hands of the party in the Cabinet which has always been in secret sympathy with Irish Sedition. We have long been prepared to see the full power of the Caucus directed to resisting the demands of the Irish Government with reference to the renewal of the Coercion Acts, and to cementing the Radical alliance with Fenianism. Those behind the scenes of the political drama that has been in process of enactment during the last five years have long been aware that the parties to this alliance have only been biding their time. The policy towards the realisation of which the Kilmainham Treaty was the first instalment has still to be carried out to its consummation.

As might have been expected, the Russian organ in the London press has been filled with alarm at the prospect of any evil befalling a Ministry that has proved the CZAR's best friend. Mr. GLADSTONE, we are assured, alone of all Englishmen, can avert war. The EMPEROR's patience and forbearance with the wayward and aggressive British people have been sorely tried, almost beyond endurance; but his MAJESTY's "deep personal regard "for the great orator who rallied the English people to the cause of Bulgarian "freedom" has, fortunately for England, gained the day, and we are mercifully spared the chastisement we so richly merited. This gracious respite is the happy result of Mr. GLADSTONE's submissiveness. But let not the English nation presume on the CZAR's conciliatory attitude, which has, it appears, "excited much "surprise among his own subjects." Let us be for the future on our best behaviour, lest we be "left to take the consequences of our folly." If any other Statesman had been in office we should have fared very differently. That, all Englishmen will probably agree, is extremely probable. It seems, in fact, quite undeniable that the Government of the CZAR had very particular reasons indeed for rejoicing that the occurrence of an Anglo-Russian quarrel found Mr. GLADSTONE at the head of affairs in England. Should we be doing the Russian Government an injustice if we were even to go a little farther, and say that the quarrel itself never would have been pushed on towards a crisis if Mr. GLADSTONE had not been in power?

But as to this favourable disposition of the CZAR towards Mr. GLADSTONE—what is the real basis of it? Is it actually (as the *Pall Mall Gazette* hints it is) the memory of the Great Orator's championship of Bulgarian freedom? That seems to us hardly an adequate explanation. No reader of STEPNIAK's new book, *Russia Under the Czars*, can think his MAJESTY possessed by that devouring enthusiasm on behalf of Freedom which the fore-mentioned hypothesis seems to attribute to him. A less imaginative explanation is furnished, and in a very convincing form indeed, by the new Blue Book on the Afghan question. The papers published in this collection belong to the less interesting period anterior to the massacre of Penjdeh; but they bear sufficient and eloquent testimony to the highly intelligible character of the Russian ground for wishing Mr. GLADSTONE's Ministry to retain office. Mr. GIBSON has described it with his usual felicity as our Government's "almost infinite capacity of squeezability." Unfortunately this is a consideration which, from the point of view of the British nation, is calculated to weigh in an entirely opposite direction. To put the matter plainly, there never has been, in the whole history of British diplomacy, a more painful and degrading exhibition of alternate feebleness and fussiness, of impotent menace and humiliating submission, of carping remonstrance and apologetic surrender, of suspicious irritability and confiding simplicity. The English Government has been duped and fooled from beginning to end. Russia, confident in the passive support of the European Concert, and relying even more, if possible, on the hopeless imbecility of the British Cabinet, is seen calmly pursuing her course of aggression, perfectly heedless of English protests. The contrast between this attitude and that of our own Ministry is complete. These unhappy men, even at the very moment of making their most valiant demonstrations, were actually putting forward their claims while ignorant of what it was that they intended to insist upon. Other points, too, there are, upon which Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL did well to insist in the House of Commons on Monday—as, for instance, Mr. GLADSTONE's untruthfulness in stating that Russia had pledged herself not to advance her troops, when no such pledge had yet been made; and the baseness of first directing the Afghans to resist the Russians and then deserting them. Doubtless new feelings of humiliation are in store for us when the next instalment of the Afghan papers comes to be published. But meanwhile one thing is abundantly clear, even from the information now before us, and that is the fatuous folly of asking for "pledges" and relying on "assurances," instead of making up our own minds to a definite policy and, as Lord SALISBURY says, "trusting to our own right hands alone for the "safety of our Indian Empire."

THE SOUDAN ABANDONED.

The debate in the House of Lords on Monday, even had it resulted in the passing of Lord Wemyss's resolution, could have had no practical effect in retarding the evacuation of the region in which so much blood has been vainly shed. But as the assertion of opinion which, we believe, is by no means confined to that House or to members of one party in the country, the protest made by several speakers of weight, and supported by the general sympathy of the audience, was certainly not wasted. The extreme opposite view advocated by Lord Wentworth, however untenable, had at least the advantage of being far more reasonable and consistent than anything which could be alleged for the actual course adopted by Ministers. In his opinion we should never have interfered with the Soudan at all. The Arabs needed, he held, no civilisers from outside. They were no danger to us or to their neighbours, and their rule was that suited to the country. He objected even to the notion of Souakim being held by any external Power. His view is the same as was advocated by himself in the House of Lords and Mr. J. Morley in the Commons, with so small a following, a few months back. It is condemnatory of the whole action of the Government except their last step. It is not a view which we consider tenable, nor was it much assisted by the rose-coloured description of Arab life and institutions which he borrowed from Mr. Wilfred Blunt. But he is entitled to some triumph in the fact that the Government, who so lately repudiated any such action, have partially acceded to the course for which he contends.

The Duke of Argyll went through the whole question in one of the most impressive speeches which have been delivered in Parliament on the affairs of the Soudan. While he generally acquiesced in the earlier action of the Government, he strongly condemned the refusal of armed assistance to General Gordon. He recognised that force alone could put any check on the pretensions of a fanatical insurrection. He severely censured the delay in sending a force at an earlier period to rescue Khartoum. He acknowledged the evil consequences, after Khartoum had fallen and Gordon perished, of letting it appear that European forces had to retire before the Arabs, and still more so after the Government had distinctly announced their intention of breaking the Mahdi's power. The only point open to question in his remarks on this subject was his apparent preference of the Mahdi himself to the anarchy which might result from the breaking up of the country among conflicting tribes. It may well be thought that a militant and fanatical propagandism, with a successful chief claiming to be a prophet at its head, is a greater evil to neighbouring countries and to all interested in their tranquillity than the collision of wild tribes in the far South. But every one might go along with the energetic and eloquent appeal which he made against the abandonment by England of the great career opening to her as a civilising Power in those regions, and his denunciation of those who would accept the responsibility of letting some other Power take up our proper task under the plea that "we were over-"weighted" with empire.

Lord Granville and Lord Derby vainly endeavoured to take away the effect of this overpowering denunciation of the outcome of their present policy by arguing that it cannot be the duty of this country to undertake civilising missions in every part of the world. No one contends that England has any special call to use its power to establish better government or repress barbarism in regions altogether removed from its natural influence or its avowed sphere of action. It is another question what necessary consequences follow, whether we desire it or not, from our position with regard to Egypt. We interfered in insisting on the abandonment of the Soudan by the Khedive. We thereby became answerable for the evacuation of the country, without harm, if possible, to the garrisons and those who had followed in their train. We have been brought into collision with the Arab insurgents, bloodshed has occurred which calls for some justification in the shape of a realised good, which will show it not to have been in vain. We have practically, since the first operations of Sir Gerald Graham, been at war with the *de facto* Government of the Soudan—a war which no treaty has ever suspended, which there is no suggestion of terminating by any conditions of peace, which we cannot abandon without a disastrous confession of failure, while its prosecution till definite results are accomplished may mean the suppression of a barbarous and destructive fanaticism and the development of the possibilities of peaceful commerce and culture over a region, part of which at least, under a better order of things, might be one of the most flourishing on the earth. Lord Derby, alluding to Ireland, observed that we had not always succeeded in gaining the willing acceptance of our civilisation nearer home. But it is not without example that neighbouring and kindred races should be the least capable of political assimilation. Russia, we are told, has had marvellous success in reconciling to her rule the Tartar races of Turkestan. She has found her dominion far less appreciated by the kindred Slavonic people of her Polish provinces.

The resolution of Lord Wemyss pointed more directly to Souakim and the Eastern Soudan. The debate, however, not unnaturally ranged over the whole question of our relations with that country. The contrast between the recent determination of the Government to advance to Khartoum and take it out of the hands of the Mahdi is in such glaring contradiction with the sudden return to a policy of withdrawal, that it was impossible for critics of the Ministerial policy to avoid dwelling upon it with emphasis, and it was a vain attempt of its defenders to make out any definite explanation. It is probable enough that the section of the Cabinet who were most averse to any such enterprise may have taken advantage of the conceivable necessity for despatching a portion of the force now in the Soudan to India as a reason for withdrawing down the Nile. The inconveniences caused by the advancing heat of the season at and near Souakim, which certainly must have been foreseen, and which Lord Napier considered might with proper care be overcome as in India, might be made a plausible reason for a temporary withdrawal to some healthier spots though none for a second retreat after victorie, thus rendered fruitless and converted into the appearance of defeats. Mr. Chamberlain in the House of Commons had said that it was no use going to Khartoum to break the power of the Mahdi, as he was not now there. But there is no ground for supposing that the place has ceased to be in his power. Insurrections of whose nature and objects there is little information have, no doubt, arisen in the interior and been attended with some success. But what could tend more to discourage the Mahdi's opponents, or add to his *prestige* with believing followers and partisans, than that he should appear to have been able to compel the retreat of the English. What can be a greater advantage to him than to be delivered from a formidable enemy in his front while obliged to deal with assailants in the rear?

Lord Cowper, in opposing Lord Wemyss's resolution, took the only line of argument on which such opposition had any ground to stand. He, like Lord Wentworth, objected to the whole course which had been taken until the determination to withdraw was arrived at. He, apparently, would never have occupied Souakim, would have sent no troops up the Nile, and avoided all conflict with the Mahdi. How we were to have repudiated all responsibility in that quarter, after arbitrarily preventing the Khedive and his Ministers from taking their own measures in the beginning of 1884, neither he nor those who take the same view have made quite intelligible. It is not clear if they would have seen no objection to Souakim falling into the hands of the Mahdi, and to his being able in the flush of his first triumphs to open communications with any disturbing elements in Arabia. But they have a strong case for contending that if it ought now to be abandoned, the lives sacrificed around it during the last two years might have been spared.

What is meant by the hint that Souakim may be handed over to another civilised Power is a mystery as yet unpenetrated. Italy has already established herself on the Red Sea shore. It is, perhaps, not likely that Italy and England will ever come into direct collision, but it may not under all circumstances be for English interests that Italy should acquire such a position on the waterway to India as the possession of Massowah and Souakim together might give her. And, as the Duke of Argyll urged, Italy will be invited to take up the work and enjoy the opportunities which England will have abandoned. Italy will have all the credit and advantages which may arise from opening up to European commerce and enterprise the undeveloped resources of a country which needs only better government to be wealthy and prosperous. Or, on the other hand, is it intended to invite Turkey, the suzerain of all the Egyptian possessions, to revive her direct control? This would be a singular conclusion to be arrived at by the anti-Turkish Ministry of Mr. Gladstone. No positive result, we are told has been arrived at by the communications which have passed between ourselves and the Porte. The Turk has certain rights over this region which could not be annulled by a transfer of our control to other hands. But if the Turk were in direct possession of the western as well as the eastern coast of the Red Sea, a still greater importance than ever would attach to friendly relations between Turkey and England. Whether a Turkish governor and garrison would be welcome to the inhabitants of Souakim and its vicinity may be a question open to doubt.

The more fully these matters are discussed there is a clear inference which will not be lost upon the intelligent portion of the people at large. The Government policy as it has been carried out has involved us in the difficulties naturally connected with a policy of action, and in the disadvantages inherent to a policy of abstention alike. Whether from irresolution, or (which is more likely) from internal differences, the Cabinet have adopted a course more unfortunate than would have been the result of any clear line of policy even if in many respects erroneous. Something was said in debate of the moral courage shown by the Cabinet in retiring from the Soudan. We have heard before of the moral courage of Ministers. It has somewhat the same ill-omened sound as the clemency of the Emperor of Laputa. To acknowledge a mistake may often be graceful in an individual. To a nation the credit of a persistent purpose is more important than a reputation for candour of this kind. The constant oscillations under some new impulse which are so characteristic of the action of our Government unfortunately tend to destroy all confidence or certainty in the promises or declared intentions of England.

THE HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

For twelve months past or more, men have been watching in the papers the record of the Royal Commission for Inquiry into the Housing of the Working Classes. "Yesterday the "members of the Commission held their 2th "sitting," present so many prominent men; and indeed the names on the Royal Commission were enough to vouch for a searching investigation and a report of the highest value. The first instalment of that report has now been for a fortnight before the public eye. This portion, which relates to England and Wales alone, has been issued separately, as some of the recommendations which the Commissioners have to make are "of great urgency," and the subject as regards Scotland and Ireland presents features which are peculiar to those countries, and may best be dealt with in a separate, and, truth to say, a less interesting report. For this is a very oasis in the desert of Blue-books. No one can fail to be interested in it as a whole. But the less conscientious reader will pass lightly over the summary of the existing law, and the description given of the overcrowding in certain parts of London and in other towns, as well as of the sanitary and structural defects of the dwellings; nor will he linger long even over the inquiry into the causes which produce overcrowding and the generally lamentable condition of the houses of the labouring classes. All these he will be inclined to "skip," taking some comfort, however, by the way, in the great improvement—in Lord Shaftesbury's eyes the "enormous "improvement"—in the condition of the houses of the poor compared to that which was prevalent thirty years ago, and he will hasten to see what are the remedies proposed. He will perceive that things are even worse than they have been painted—that the overcrowding is as great and that the rents are as high as ever his imagination figured them. On the Clerkenwell estates Lord William Compton found, at No. 10, Queen Street, that the weekly rent of the front room was 10*s.*, of the back room 4*s.* 6*d.*, of the kitchen 3*s.*, of the first floor 13*s.* and of the second floor 10*s.* This rental amounted to more than £2 a week, or more than £100 a year, and the rent which the house-jobber paid to Lord Northampton was only £20 a year. True, there were the repairs to be done. But those are only wanted once in every three or four years, and a man who is making his 150 per cent. every other year can well afford to pay for repairs, and if he be merciful to his lodgers he will not raise their rent in consideration of his bounty.

Such things, however, as these do but serve as illustrations. The keynote of the present report is struck when the Commissioners insist, in emphatic terms, that it is better administration which is required to remedy the evils that exist rather than increased legislation. We have, indeed, Acts of Parliament enough and to spare. We have the Sanitary Act, Lord Shaftesbury's Labouring Classes Lodging-house Act (which has been an "absolute dead "letter"); we have Cross's Acts and Torrens's Acts—a very wilderness of legislation, which requires consolidation, nay codification, far more than it needs expansion. There are, we are told, very few people who know the actual remedies which the existing law supplies. When men try to find out, they are in the position of the zealous judge who once, upon the Bench, plunged into the maze of the Hackney Carriage Acts. He repented his rash step. The evil is great, and there has been much legislation designed to meet the evil. But the existing laws are not put in force. There has been a failure in administration, not a failure in legislation. "Your Majesty's "Commissioners therefore recommend that the "vestries and District Boards which have "not already made and enforced bylaws" (under the Sanitary Act of 1866) "should "proceed to do so, although it is not likely "that in all cases such action will be taken "until the people show a more active interest "in the management of their local affairs." There the Commissioners put their finger on the difficulty. These powerful governing bodies are elected by the parishioners who pay poor-rates. So little interest, however, is as a rule taken in the election by the inhabitants that instances have been known of vestrymen in populous parishes being returned by two votes on a show of hands. And here it is that the presence in an East-end parish of such a colony from the West and elsewhere as Toynbee Hall or the Oxford Settlement in Bethnal Green may do much good. It may stir up the inhabitants to take an intelligent interest in their local affairs, to get the right men elected to the vestry or district board, and to canvass closely the proceedings of those men when they sit there.

Coming now to the principal remedies proposed by the Commissioners, there is one to which we are glad to be able to give our unqualified approval. In London much of the overcrowding and many of the consequent evils are due to the insufficiency of accommodation in those parts of the city where the demand for dwellings is greatest. Such districts are so densely built over that there is no possibility of finding space, save by the removal of existing buildings. The Commissioners have found that Her Majesty's prisons occupy no less than forty-five acres in the metropolitan area, some of the establishments—Coldbath-fields, Pentonville, and Millbank—being in the most densely populated districts. The Commissioners suggest—and it is a happy inspiration—that the overcrowding be relieved by removing the prisoners to other existing prisons, and then dealing with the spaces left vacant. They propose "that the sites now occupied by Millbank, "Coldbath-fields, and Pentonville Prisons "should be so conveyed to the Metropolitan "Board of Works, in trust for the benefit of "those portions of the town which are most "overcrowded. In fixing the price at which "the sites should be conveyed, due regard "should be had to the purposes for which they "are so required. To carry into effect the "object of securing additional land where "most required in the metropolis for building "room for workmen's dwellings and for "open spaces connected therewith, power "should be given, previous to their "acquisition by the Metropolitan Board "of Works, to sell or exchange, with "the approval of the Home Office, any portion "of the sites referred to, that the areas "obtained instead should be devoted, in pro-"portions to be fixed by the confirming "authority, to these uses and to no other." So far so good. But we must remember that these forty-five acres can be but a sop to the Cerberus of over-population.

There is a second proposal emanating not from the whole body of the Commissioners, but from a considerable section of them, among whom are Cardinal Manning, Lord Carrington, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Mr Lyulph Stanley, and Mr. Torrens, in favour of "the acquisition on equitable terms of the "freehold interest on the part of the lease "holder;" in fact, as Lord Salisbury paraphrases it, "a measure for enabling the holder "of a long lease to force the freeholder to sell "his freehold to him at a favourable price." This proposition is dangerously near those of Mr. Broadhurst and his fellows, and, what is more, it is *nihil ad rem*. Its relevancy to the matter in question before the Commissioners is, to say the least, nebulous. To us, as to Lord Salisbury, it appears to have little to do with the housing of the poor. If politicians who stand at such opposite poles as Lord Salisbury and Mr. Goschen, Sir Richard Cross and Sir Charles Dilke, agree in condemning this recommendation of their colleagues, it cannot stand.

But it is a pleasanter task to turn to the two districts in London which are "honourably "distinguished," as showing what good work local authorities can do with existing legislation if they are energetic and well-disposed. These are Chelsea and Hackney, where the Sanitary Act is really enforced. In these two districts only have the regulations made under that Act become a living power. Given energetic medical officers and surveyors and intelligent and disinterested members of local boards to support them in their suggestions, and half the difficulty of the question, it has been said, is met at once. The present staff, too, is in very many places overworked. In Islington there is one sanitary inspector to 56,000 inhabitants; in St. Pancras, one to 59,000; in Bermondsey, one to 86,000; and in Mile End, only one to 105,000. Clerkenwell stands in the midway between the least and the most inspected districts. It has two sanitary inspectors, with an assistant, who also, however, holds the posts of sexton and coroner's officer, for its 69,000 inhabitants. Contrast this with the case of St. James's, Westminster, which has one inspector to every 9,000 of its population. But, unfortunately, in this latter parish the inspectors are under the rule of a vestry with whom self-interest is far more powerful than any sense of duty. Eliminate, if it may be so, the selfishness of local governments, and stir them to an activity tenfold their present ratio, and then, without greatly increasing their powers, London at any rate will be far on in the path of progress towards the *sanitas sanitatum, omnia sanitas*, which should be its goal.

Under the attractive heading of "Priestly Intolerance," an aggrieved correspondent, who signs himself "George Heaviside, B.A., F.R.G.S., Minister of the Great Meeting-house, Coventry," sends a long letter both to the *Nonconformist* and to the *Inquirer*, detailing his own behaviour on a recent occasion during Divine service at the church of Stratford-on-Avon, and the treatment to which he was subjected in consequence. As he himself says, "in order to enjoy the musical part of the service better, I walked down the building and took up a good central position. The] music . . . filled my whole being with a sense of restful joy—Nirvana. Surrendering myself to meditation, I neither rose, nor knelt, nor bowed, whenever the persons present did, but simply sat perfectly still. . . . At the close of the service, after the procession of choir and priests had filed into the vestry, . . . suddenly I found myself confronted by a man clad in priestly garments." This proved to be the worthy Vicar of Stratford-on-Avon, the Rev. G. Arbuthnot, who, unsympathetically breaking in on the "Nirvana," promptly rebuked the visitor for his irreverent conduct, and was met by the following dignified and polite reply:—"Good man, I claim to have preserved a most studied quietness and solemnity of manner during your service, and I have still to learn wherein I offended. You have no right whatever to dictate to me how I am to worship. I worshipped after my own form, and shall continue to do so." We trust the vicar of Stratford-on-Avon was duly impressed by these striking observations, as well as by those which followed. Having borne this courageous testimony in the true spirit of Liberal Nonconformity, the aggrieved one (according to his own account) thus proceeded to wither up the offender:—"I protest against your unwarrantable interference, and I further beg to tell you that I am also a minister of religion, having charge of a congregation at Coventry. I trust you will not so act as to cause me to write you down—yes, sir, write you down—in the public Press." Mr. Heaviside does not seem to have produced as much effect upon the vicar as he had expected. He complains that he was "abominably affronted," that the vicar addressed him "with *hauteur*," "sternly," "vehemently," "defiantly," "glaring at me," "very sternly," "with a sneer," and then the meek victim of this "most unprovoked and atrocious example of priestly intolerance" thus eloquently sums up his case:—"I went to pray in his (the vicar's) exquisite church in the spirit of the great of all time without form or pretence, and for my pains met with gross ungentlemanliness of manner. I went to show my reverence for Shakespeare, to realise more fully the over-towering, soul-enkindling genius of the mighty dead, to worship at the shrine of this poetic Mecca, and, alas! I am met by rough ecclesiastical usage." It must be confessed that after this lofty flight of indignant eloquence the descent is rather rapid, and the rest of Mr. Heaviside's observations seem a trifle flat and prosaic. He, in fact, concludes with some stereotyped hints as to Disestablishment and Disendowment. Only one thing more need be noted. The delightful effusion from which these extracts are culled is dated from a publichouse, where possibly the afflicted "brother," following the celebrated example of Mr. Stiggins, had endeavoured to moisten his grief before returning home. We hope he has since reached Coventry in safety, and there it is, perhaps, best that we should leave him.

The annual athletic sports of the Thames Nautical Training College (H.M.S. *Worcester*) will be held at Greenhithe, on the 30th inst., under the patronage of Sir George H. Chambers; when Mrs. Bevan, of Stone Park, Dartford, will distribute the prizes. An additional attraction this year will be an Old Cadets' race of 220 yards for a Silver Cup.

Reviews.

LORD BEACONSFIELD ABROAD.*

Mr. Ralph Disraeli has done well in publishing the little volume of *Home Letters written by the late Earl of Beaconsfield*, which has been recently issued by Mr. Murray. These letters were sent to various members of the family in 1830 and 1831, when the future Premier went for the benefit of his health to Spain, Malta, the Ionian Islands, Greece, Turkey, and Egypt. As the editor well observes, "travelling fifty years ago was an event in a man's "life," and there is a considerable difference between a personally-conducted tour under the auspices of Mr. Cook, and a tour through the same regions in the days when William the Fourth was King. The *Home Letters* were written by Mr. Disraeli when he was seeking by change of scene and climate to re-establish his health, which had been severely tried, and the descriptions which they contain are conveyed in "that easy and "flowing style" which the editor claims for his brother, though we doubt if the impartial verdict of the critic who regards him as a novelist rather than as a politician will be to the same effect. We are not, however, now compelled to embark on a general criticism of Lord Beaconsfield's style—which, truth to tell, was too ornate to satisfy the requirements of a severe taste—but merely to call attention to the bright and lively letters which have been so opportunely reproduced by Mr. Ralph Disraeli. The first of these is dated from Falmouth, where the writer was surprised, as he was often subsequently surprised, to find how well-known his father's works were. It is a pleasant feature in the letters to recognise how young Disraeli, gratified as he was at the appreciation shown of his own merits as a novelist—and it must be remembered that, young as he was, he was already known to the world as the author of *Vivian Grey*—was yet far more gratified at the appreciation shown of his father's contributions to literary history. He chronicles with great glee the presence at Gibraltar of all the works of the elder Disraeli. Of Gib itself he says:—

> This rock is a wonderful place, with a population infinitely diversified. Moors with costumes radiant as a rainbow or an Eastern melodrama; Jews with gaberdines and skullcaps; Genoese, Highlanders, and Spaniards, whose dress is as picturesque as that of the sons of Ivor.

He was somewhat disappointed that, despite their frequent inquiries after robbers and the constant report that robbers had been seen a night or two before, he and his friends returned from a visit to the debateable land without having encountered any adventures. Spain itself was still more to his taste, despite its weak Government, which

> resolves society into its original elements, and robbery becomes more honourable than war, inasmuch as the robber is paid and the soldier in arrear.

Of Cadiz he says that it is charming, "brilliant "beyond description; 'Fair Florence' is a very "dingy affair compared with it. The white "houses and the green jalousies sparkle in the sun. "Figaro is in every street, Rosina in every "balcony."

His enthusiasm for Spain is, indeed, somewhat remarkable, and he indulges in the following outburst:—

> Oh, wonderful Spain! Think of this romantic land covered with Moorish ruins and full of Murillo! Ah that I could describe to you the wonders of the painted temples of Seville! ah that I could wander with you amid the fantastic and imaginative halls of delicate Alhambra! Why, why cannot I convey to you more perfectly all that I see and feel? I thought that enthusiasm was dead within me, and nothing could be new. I have hit perhaps upon the only country which could have upset my theory—a country of which I have read little and thought nothing—a country of which indeed nothing has been of late written, and which few visit.

We do not know that such a description would now be applicable, and we may also doubt if travellers in the present day would receive so cordial a welcome as that which was accorded to Mr. Disraeli at Seville, where he humorously contrasts the freedom from strict etiquette shown in his host's family with the offence which his tailor would feel if not offered a chair and addressed as Signor. It is to be regretted that the "elephantine sheet from Granada to my "mother, all about Spanish ladies and tomato "sauce," has not been recovered; but among the extant letters there are many very amusing sketches of cosas d'Espagna, from which we may extract the following:—

> What a country have I lived in! I am invited by "a grand lady of Madrid"—I quote our host at Cordova—to join her escort to Granada: twenty foot soldiers, four servants armed, and tirailleurs in the shape of a dozen muleteers. We refused for reasons too long here to detail, and set off alone two hours before, expecting an assault. I should tell you we dined previously with her and her husband, having agreed to meet to discuss matters. It was a truly Gil Blas scene. My lord in an undress uniform, slightly imposing in appearance, greeted us with dignity; the signora, exceedingly young and really very pretty, with infinite vivacity and grace. A French valet leant on his chair, and a duenna, such as Stephanoff would draw, broad and supercilious, with jet eyes, mahogany complexion, and cocked-up nose, stood by my lady bearing a large fan. She was most complaisant, as she evidently had more confidence in two thick-headed Englishmen with their Purdeys and Mantons than in her specimen of the once famous Spanish infantry. She did not know that we are cowards on principle. I could screw up my courage to a duel or a battle, but I think my life worth five pounds in the shape of ransom to José Maria. In spite of her charms and their united eloquence, which, as they only spoke Spanish, was of course most persuasive, we successfully resisted. The moon rises on our course; for the first two leagues all is anxiety, as it was well known that a strong band was lying in wait for the "great lady." After two leagues we began to hope, when suddenly our guide informs us that he hears a trampling of horses in the distance. Ave Maria! A cold perspiration came over me. Decidedly they approach, but rather an uproarious crew. We drew up out of pure fear, and I had my purse ready. The band turned out to be a company of actors travelling to Cordova. There they were, dresses and decorations, scenery and machinery, all on mules and donkeys, for there are no roads in this country. The singers rehearsing an opera; the principal tragedian riding on an ass; and the buffo, most serious, looking as grave as night, with a cigar, and in greater agitation than them all. Then there were women in side-saddles, like sedans, and whole paniers of children, some of the former chanting an ave, while their waists (saving your presence, but it is a rich trait) were in more than one instance encircled by the brawny arm of a more robust devotee. All this irresistibly reminded me of Cervantes. We proceed and meet a caravan (*corsario* they call it, but I spell from sound) of armed merchants, who challenged us, with a regular piquet, and I nearly got shot for not answering in time, being somewhat before my guide. Then came two travelling friars who give us their blessing, and then we lose our way. We wander about all night; dawn breaks, and we stumble on some peasants sleeping in the field amid their harvest. We learn that we cannot regain our road, and, utterly wearied, we finally sink to sound sleep with our pack-saddles for our pillows.

Noteworthy, too, are the young traveller's comments on that which is, perhaps, the great glory of Spain in the eyes of the artist, and was not, at the time that he wrote, so familiar to English readers as it has since been rendered—first by Washington Irving, and then by many who have trodden in his footsteps. The whole passage about the Alhambra is so good a specimen of the tone of the letters, that despite its length we think it well to quote it:—

> I wish that I could convey to you some idea of the Saracenic architecture, in perfect and brilliant specimens of which the South of Spain abounds; but I feel it is impossible. Description is always a bore, both to the describer and to the describee. One thing, however, I will say, for it is a further and a stronger illustration of what I have long thought, that however there may be a standard of *taste*, there is no standard of *style*. I must place the Alhambra with the Parthenon, the Pantheon, and York Minster. The same principles of taste are there evident, but the combinations are different. On this principle you may equally admire Æschylus, Virgil, Shakespeare, and Ferdousi. There never could have been a controversy on such a point, if mankind had not confused the ideas of *taste* and *style*. The Saracenic architecture is the most inventive and fanciful, but at the same time the most fitting and the most delicate that can be conceived. There would be no doubt about its title to be considered among the first inventions of men if it were better known. It is only to be found in any degree of perfection in Spain. When a man sneers at the Saracenic, ask him what he has seen. Perhaps a barbarous though picturesque building, called the Ducal Palace, at Venice? What should we think of a man who decided on the buildings of Agrippa by the architecture of Justinian, or judged the age of Pericles by the restorations of Hadrian? Yet he would not commit so great a blunder. There is a Moorish palace, the Alcazar, at Seville; an immense mosque at Cordova, turned into a Cathedral only with partial alteration; the Alhambra at Granada: these are the great specimens, and sufficient for all study. There is a shrine and chapel of a Moorish saint at Cordova, quite untouched, with the blue mosaic and the golden honeycombed roof as vivid and as brilliant as when the saint was worshipped. The materials are the richest, the ornament the most costly, and in detail the most elegant and the most novel, the most fanciful, and the most flowing; but nothing at the same time can be conceived more just than the proportions of the whole, and more mellowed than the blending of the parts, which indeed Palladio could not excel.
>
> The great efforts of antique architecture are confined to temples or theatres, which at the best can be only a room. The Alhambra is a palace, and the opportunity for invention is, of course, infinitely increased. It is not a ruin, as I expected, scarcely in a state of dilapidation. Certainly, under the patronage of our late monarch, it might have been restored to all its pristine splendour, though I think a compliant Parliament would have been almost as necessary as Sir Jeffrey Wyatville. Everything about it, though exquisitely proportioned, is slight and small and delicate. Murphy makes the Court of Pillars too large and coarse. Around this court are chambers with carved and purple roofs studded with gold, and walls entirely covered with the most fanciful relief, picked out with that violet tint which must have been copied from their Andalusian skies. In these you may sit in the coolest shade, reclining upon cushions, with your beads or pipe, and view the most dazzling sunlight in the court, which assuredly must scorch the flowers, if the faithful lions ever ceased from pouring forth that element which you must travel in Spain or Africa to honour. Pindar was quite right. These chambers are innumerable. There is the Hall of the Ambassadors, always the most sumptuous; the Hall of Justice; the rooms of the sultanas and of the various members of the family, quite perfect, not a single roof has given. What a scene! Ah that you were here! But conceive it in the time of the Boabdils; conceive it with all its courtly decoration, all the gilding, all the imperial purple, all the violet relief, all the scarlet borders, all the glitt-ring inscriptions and costly mosaics, burnished, bright, and fresh; conceive it full of still greater ornaments, the living groups with their rich and vivid and picturesque costume, and, above all, their shining arms; some standing in groups conversing, some smoking in sedate silence, some telling their beads, some squatting round a storier. Then the bustle and the rush, and the arming horsemen all in motion, and all glancing in the most brilliant sun.

From Spain the traveller went to Malta, and thence to Corfu, "a most lovely island, offering "all that you can expect, from Grecian scenery, "gleaming waters, woody isles, cypress, olive, vine, "a clear sky, and a warm sun." Still more interesting is his visit to Albania, which reminds us of Childe Harold, and the whole of the tenth letter is full of attractive matter which only the exigencies of space prevent us from quoting. His visit to Redschid Pasha has already supplied a modern politician who appears to tread in his footsteps with a telling passage; and the comparison drawn by Lord Randolph between Mr. Gladstone and this pillar of the Turkish Empire who destroyed *not* in war upwards of four thousand of the Austrian Consul's acquaintance, but at the same time insisted that the peace of the world was his only object, and the happiness of mankind his only wish, is not likely to be soon forgotten.

Next follows a narrative of his visit to Greece proper, which contains a graphic sketch of Athens seen beneath the vivid tints of a "violet sunset," and from Greece to Constantinople is an easy transition. That city, he says,

> baffles all description, though so often described. An immense mass of buildings, cupolas, cypress groves, and minarets. I feel an excitement which I thought was dead.

The writer could little have imagined that in after years it would be his fate to rescue the city which aroused this excitement in him from the invading army of the Muscovite; but it is noteworthy that in speaking of the Turkish soldiers he says:—"They are certainly not to be compared to "French or English line, but they would certainly "beat the Spanish or the Dutch, and many think, "with fair play, the Russians." The connection between Lord Beaconsfield and the unspeakable one in latter days adds a further interest to the following passage, which must be the last of our extracts:—

> Description is an acknowledged bore. I dread it myself, and therefore sympathise with your already murmured fears, so I leave Constantinople to your imagination. Cypress groves and mosquish domes, masses of habitations grouped on gentle acclivities rising out of the waters, millions of minarets, a sea like a river covered with innumerable long thin boats as swift as gondolas, and far more gay, being carved and gilt—all these, and then when filled with a swarming population in rich and brilliant and varied costume, will afford you a more lively, and certainly not a more incorrect, idea than half a dozen pages worthy of Horace Smith. There are two things here which cannot be conceived without inspection—the Bosphorus and the Bazaar. Conceive the ocean not broader than the Thames at Gravesend, with shores with all the variety and beauty of the Rhine, covered with palaces, mosques, villages, groves of cypress, and woods of Spanish chestnuts; the view of the Euxine at the end is the most sublime thing I can remember. The Bazaar would delight you more than the Bosphorus. Fancy the Burlington Arcade, or some of the Parisian passages and panoramas; fancy perhaps a square mile of ground covered with these arcades intersecting each other in all directions and full of every product of the empire, from diamonds to dates. The magnificence, novelty, and variety of the goods on sale, the whole nation of shopkeepers all in different dress, the crowds of buyers from all parts of the world, are just to be hinted at. Here every people have a characteristic costume. Turks, Greeks, Jews, and Armenians are the staple population: the latter seem to predominate. The Armenians wear round and very unbecoming black caps and robes; the Jews a black hat wreathed with a white handkerchief; the Greek black turbans; the Turks indulge in all combinations of costume. The meanest merchant in the Bazaar looks like a Sultan in an Eastern fairy tale. This is merely to be ascribed to the marvellous brilliancy of their dyes, which is one of the most remarkable circumstances in their social life, and which never has been explained to me. A common pair of slippers that you push on in the street is tinged of a vermilion or a lake so extraordinary that I can compare their colour to nothing but the warmest beam of a southern sunset.

With the exception of the passage about the Alhambra which we have quoted above, there is little about art and architecture in these letters, and what little there is, we must add, is not always correct; as, for example, when he speaks of Murillo having produced only one picture of beggar boys! But as a bright and lively record of travel and travelling as they were over fifty years ago, these letters possess considerable interest of their own, apart from the additional interest which they derive from the writer's personality.

* *Home Letters written by the late Earl of Beaconsfield*, In One Vol.—London: John Murray, 1885.

The three sermons preached on the 700th anniversary of the consecration of the Temple Church have been republished by Messrs. Macmillan in an attractive-looking volume, which will be for many persons an acceptable memento of a most interesting celebration. Not only those who are dwellers in the legal district which has gathered round the church consecrated by Heraclius on February 10, 1185, but also a yet wider circle to whom that sacred edifice is familiar, will be glad to preserve such a record. The three preachers were the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Master of the Temple, and the Reader of the Temple, and each in his various manner has done ample justice to the noble theme. Mr. Ainger is, without doubt, somewhat severely handicapped by being brought into juxtaposition with two such accomplished masters of the art of pulpit oratory as the Archbishop and Dr. Vaughan. But he has come out of the ordeal well, and we venture to think that each one of the three sermons contained in the volume before us is fully up to the level of the occasion. This is high praise, as the occasion was one of great interest, and full of lessons, both historical and religious. The morals to be drawn alike from the circumstances which attended the first consecration of the Round Church, which yet preserves among us the memory of its first founder, and from the circumstances of its subsequent history during the succeeding seven centuries, are emphatically enforced by the various preachers.

Mr. Ludlow is continuing his series of reprints from the first folio of Shakespeare's plays, to which we have already called attention. It commenced with *Hamlet*, which was followed by *Romeo and Juliet*—of which, by some accident, we have received no copy—and we have now before us *As You Like It*, which forms the third of the series. It is certainly to be hoped that Mr. Ludlow will find sufficient encouragement in his good work—in which he has been ably seconded by his publishers, Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall and Co.—to induce him to complete his issue of all Shakespeare's works in the same attractive form. As we said in reference to the *Hamlet*, such a reissue is not merely a literary curiosity, but also a pleasant and readable edition of the greatest of English poets. Though we may, perhaps, not feel quite so convinced as Mr. Ludlow feels that the first folio represents with infallible accuracy the *ipsissima verba* of the dramatist, we must own that there is considerable literary interest and value to be attached even to its errors. Mr. Ludlow has conferred a decided boon on Shakespeare students by supply-

ng so clear and so readable a reissue of what is, if not the most correct, at all events the earliest, edition of the plays which have since suffered so severely at the hands of commentators and able editors.

Correspondence.

THE DANGER OF DEFENDING THE DEFENCELESS.

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Sir,—Londoners know something of the insecurity of the streets, and of the cowardly assaults so frequently committed by roughs upon defenceless persons; but I was not aware till yesterday that the law would punish a man for interfering with a crowd of roughs and errand-boys when baiting and teasing a harmless and defenceless old man in a public thoroughfare.

Briefly let me lay the following facts before your readers, in the hope that some of our legislators may find time to question the Home Secretary about the administration of law in London.

On Wednesday afternoon an old man, of about 70 years of age, was carrying on his head a sack of shavings along the Fulham-road. Some idle lads saw in this poor defenceless creature a suitable object for horseplay. They first pulled his hat off his head, which was flung into the roadway. This was picked up by a little boy, acting the part of a good Samaritan, and was returned to him; but the gang of disorderly lads continued to follow the poor fellow from the bottom of Drayton-gardens to Cranley-gardens, pushing him about and maltreating him, and teasing him in the most brutal manner. Three young men having watched this game for nearly a quarter of an hour, and having vainly looked for a policeman, crossed the road and walked close behind the poor man, for the purpose of offering him some sort of protection. In spite of this, one young rascal rushed at the unfortunate old fellow, and was in the act of lifting his hand to pull off his hat again, when one of the three young men already mentioned caught the youngster, a lad of fifteen, and boxed his ears vigorously. The action happily saved the helpless old creature from all further annoyance. But the knot of roughs and idlers, amongst whom were by this time collected several loose women and a "crawling" cabman, now turned all their attention to the manly young fellow who had dared to interfere with their inhuman sport. They followed him along the Fulham-road for a quarter of a mile, hooting after him, and pelting him with sand and stones. At last a policeman was seen near Pelham-road. What happened? One of the crowd suggested to the boy that he should give the young man who had boxed his ears into the policeman's charge. He did so. At first the constable declined to act; but the lad's street friends threatened to report him to Scotland-yard if he refused. Under this threat the constable took the young man through the streets as a prisoner to the nearest police-office in Walton-street, where he was locked up in a common cell just as any felon might be. He had already given the constable his address, which was within a mile and a half of the police-office, and which, therefore, could readily and speedily have been verified by the police if they had wished. Locked up in a felon's cell he remained, until a ratepayer could be found who would become bail for him. Next morning he had to appear in the Westminster Police-court, and answer the charge of assault. The errand-boy, well tutored, made his statement. He had (he said) merely pushed up accidentally against the old man in the Fulham-road, when he was violently struck by the culprit at the bar. The magistrate asked the defendant for his version of the affair. When he had finished the magistrate said that no doubt the boy had deserved some chastisement; but, as a technical assault had been committed, he would recommend the assailant to give the boy a shilling.

Thus this remarkable case ended. The errand-boy had triumphed, and doubtless went away from the police-court firmly convinced that it was a perfectly safe amusement to torment a helpless old man in the streets of London. If any one should dare to lay a finger on him, he could drag him into a police dock and force him to pay at least a shilling.

Now, I ask you and your readers to consider what the effect of such a state of the law must be on the youthful population now issuing from our boasted Board schools and upon other of Her Majesty's lieges, who need not henceforth hesitate to torment a helpless old man. Who will dare to protect him? Nay, more; who will dare to interfere in a street row, even when life may be in jeopardy?

I enclose my card, and remain, Sir, faithfully yours,

EXPECTANS.

[It is sincerely to be hoped that the Home Secretary may feel himself able to utilise some of the superfluous energies which he is expending on the King's College School affair for the correction of such an atrocious scandal as that narrated above.—ED. *J. B.*]

WHY NOT TAX THE EXPORT OF COAL?

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Sir,—As Mr. Childers's Budget is almost sure to be considerably changed, and as he ought to find some substitute for his lost tax upon beer and spirits, I venture humbly to throw out for consideration the following ideas.

The possession of abundance of coal and iron in our island has undoubtedly been one of the chief causes of our prosperity as a nation. By exporting these commodities in large quantities we are certainly bringing nearer the day of England's decline and fall. At the present moment the export of coal is especially damaging to our dearest interests. Thereby we help our manufacturing rivals on the Continent to undersell us in the world's markets; thereby, also, we are enabling Russia to supply her men of war in the Baltic with fuel that may and very probably will shortly be employed in propelling hostile ships against us. In a Newcastle newspaper I have observed that large consignments of coal for Cronstadt, and other Baltic ports, have been made for some time past. Surely this mode of "comforting" our enemy ought to be summarily stopped by laying such a tax on the export of one of the main sinews of war as would have the effect of stopping it almost, if not quite, entirely.

Yours truly, SENESCENS.

ASCENSION DAY AND THE INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Sir,—Can any of your readers suggest what ought to be done in this case?

Her Majesty's inspector of schools appoints Thursday, the 14th, being "Ascension Day," for his official visit.

The correspondent of the school, without conference with the other managers, accepts such appointment, and the examination takes place at the same time that Divine service is going on in the church twenty yards distant. How can such a scandal be prevented another year?

As one of the managers, I should be disposed to prefer a Board school pure and simple to a professedly Church of England school in which a great festival of the Church is ignored in this way. The inspector's proposed visit to a *neighbouring* school on Ascension Day was absolutely refused, and I have not heard of any harm happening. Surely a resolute front on the part of managers generally would soon put a stop to this desecration of a holy day.

Yours obediently,
EDWARD MACHEN.

Bicknor Court, May 18.

THE INCORPORATED CHURCH BUILDING SOCIETY.

The Earl of DEVON presided on Thursday at the sixty-seventh annual meeting of the above society, held at the offices in Dean's-yard.

The meeting having been opened with prayer, the secretary, the Rev. R. MILBURN BLAKISTON, read the annual report, from which we give a few extracts:—

"In contrasting the £6,770 11s. 1d. received in 1884 with the £7,293 19s. 7d. of 1883, the Committee would call attention to the fact that the receipts from Annual Subscriptions and Diocesan and District Committees remain much the same; while the Mission Buildings Fund, which is regarded by the Committee as a branch of the Society's work of growing importance, has received considerably increased support during 1884. Legacies, too, have produced more than £300 in excess of the previous year. The donations, which are always an uncertain source of income, show less than half the sum received in 1883; and, which is much to be regretted, the parochial and other collections have contributed only £1,129 as against £1,355.

"It will probably be a matter of surprise to the members of the Society that the total number of parishes sending contributions from the proceeds of offertories or Church collections direct to the Society in 1884 was only 469; this is fewer by 72 than in 1883. The difference is the more remarkable and to be regretted when it is remembered that upwards of 7,000 parishes have been benefited by grants from the Society since its formation.

"As five years have elapsed since the rule was made that in voting grants they shall be made upon the condition, in addition to the usual conditions, that the incumbent and churchwardens shall undertake for themselves, and, so far as they are able, for their successors, to have an annual collection for the Society, it may be observed, on the whole, the rule has worked well. The objections to it have been but few, while the justice of it has been fully allowed.

"As the grants are not paid until the completion of the work, the rule often cannot come into operation until a few years have elapsed from the date of making the agreement; so that, at present, only a comparatively small number of parishes are bound by it; and, with some exceptions, the agreement has been honourably kept.

"The prolonged depression of trade and the low prices of agricultural produce have tended to curtail the amount of support afforded to many charitable institutions, and this Society must be counted in the number of those which have thus suffered. Yet the Committee think that more assistance might reasonably be looked for from the lay members of the Church, especially in the form of yearly contribution. At present the number of annual subscribers to the Society may be classed as follows:—Clergy, 365; laity, 343; total, 708.

"It will thus be seen that the subscriptions are out of all proportion to the relative numbers of clerical and lay members of the Church. If, however, a greater number of the laity preferred to make large donations in lieu of annual subscriptions, the Committee would be contented with this form of contribution as a proof of their real interest in the work of the Society.

"The Committee feel that the Society has still a great future before it. There may be times of prosperity or of adversity so far as relate to its annual income, but, in the face of the appalling growth of the population of the country, and the massing together of our fellow-creatures in the suburbs of our great towns, it is manifest that the Church has a great duty before her in setting up churches and mission chapels, and all the organisation of effective parochial machinery, in order to bring the Gospel of our Divine Redeemer into every locality, that thus it may no longer be a reproach to the Church of England that she has failed to provide the means of grace for those who are destitute of them.

"In their last report the Committee drew attention to the notice which had been received from the Chief Commissioner of Her Majesty's Woods and Forests, to quit the premises at No. 7, Whitehall. Although the removal does not come within the events of the year 1884, it is best to state in the present report that the removal of the Society to No. 2, Dean's-yard, Westminster, took place on the Thursday in Easter week, April 9, 1885. As the situation is a convenient one, and the accommodation sufficient, though rather contracted, the Committee cannot but repeat their earnest desire, expressed in last year's report, that, in their new offices, the 'work of the Society may be carried on with increasing usefulness.'

"The following is a list of the chief contributions to the Society in 1884:—To the general fund:—Richard Foster, Esq., £100; Earl of Dartmouth, £75; Colonel E. Sibthorpe, £50; Miss Jones, £31; Rev. George Ray, £30; F. Calvert, Esq., £25; Rev. W. A. Whitworth, £21; Rev. T. Woodruff and Miss Everard, £20 each; Mrs. Scrivener, £15; S. J. Wilde, Esq. (special), £13 13s.; W. Barnes, Esq., Miss Bishop, Mrs. Dashwood, J. Eckersley, Esq., S. P. Kennard, Esq., Ven. Archdeacon Lea, Rev. Canon Linton, Rev. F. W. Poland, Rev. A. C. Radcliffe, F. H. Rivington, Esq., and Miss Wakeham, £10 10s. each; Lady L. Bickersteth, Miss A. S. Bourne, R. E. P. Balston, Esq., Earl of Eldon, W. S. Gillett, Esq., Rev. John Goring, Bishop of London, Right Hon. Lord Northbourne, and Miss Strong, £10 each. To the Mission Buildings Fund:—E. B. W. Balme, Esq., £250; Richard Foster, Esq. £100; J. Mackrell, Esq., £52 10s.; James Hilton, Esq., £30; William Rivington, Esq., £25; Rev. Canon Cazenove, and Anon. per Rev. George Ray, £20 each; H. H. Bolton, Esq., H. Cazenove, Esq., Rev. J. A. Legh-Campbell, and Arthur Powell, Esq., £10 10s. each; Ven. Archdeacon Harrison, £10 5s.; Miss Farmer and Rev. John Goring, £10 each.

"The legacies received were:—John Green, Esq., £1,098 19s. 11d., Miss Hurst, balance, £5 9s. 2d., Mrs. E. Park, £19 19s., Miss S. M. Walker, £100; and J. W. Wasney, Esq., £20.

Since the foundation of the Society, sixty-six years ago, 7,393 grants have been made; viz., 1,963 towards erecting additional churches, or chapels of ease, and 5,430 for the enlargement, rebuilding, repairing, and re-arrangement of churches.

"By these means 1,781,315 additional seats were to be obtained, three-fourths of them being for the free use of the parishioners. The sum voted towards these works (most of which has been paid) was £917,888, involving a further expenditure, on the part of the public, of at least £11,783,281 sterling.

"At the nine meetings held in 1884, the General Committee entertained favourably 126 applications for aid, and voted grants to the amount of £6,675.

"But it is constantly acknowledged that the grants of this Society are of more value than the mere pecuniary amount bestowed. The Society's approval of the plans, and the practical endorsement of the undertaking by the grant voted, often stimulates Church people to renewed exertions, in order to carry out the work upon which they are engaged; and there is little doubt that the progress of Church extension throughout the country has been very largely owing to the impulse given by the continued activity of the Society.

"The number of trust funds for repairs of churches is continually increasing; and the Society also holds money in trust which is to be devoted towards the building of some particular church. The Committee think that, by calling attention to this, many persons who are collecting funds for some church in which they are specially interested may be induced to deposit the sum raised in the hands of this Society until it may be required. The Society invests all its trust funds in Consols at compound interest, unless some other particular form of investment is allowed.

"In the past year the following Cathedral churches have sent collections towards the funds of the Society—viz., St. Paul's, Winchester, Lichfield, Peterborough, Rochester, St. Asaph, Worcester."

The following is a general summary of the operations of the Society since its formation in 1818:—

Total number of applications for aid, 8,959.

Grants made, 7,393; viz., in aid of the erection of 1,963 additional churches and chapels, and of building, enlarging, or otherwise improving the accommodation in 5,430 existing churches and chapels.

By these means 1,781,315 additional seats were proposed to be obtained, of which 1,440,718, or three-fourths of the whole, were to be set apart for the free use of the parishioners.

Sum voted by the Society towards these works £917,888, or (excluding grants cancelled, £120,814), £797,074.

Estimated amount of further expenditure on the part of the public, £11,783,281.

The following is a summary of the Society's operations for the year ending 31st December, 1884. General Fund:—The number of applications received was 105. The requisite forms of application, plans, &c., having been examined and approved by the Society, grants were voted—towards building churches, 30; towards rebuilding existing churches, 10; towards enlarging or increasing accommodation in existing churches by extension of walls, rearrangement of seats, and other improvements, 58; total, 98. Mission Buildings Fund:—The number of applications received was 33.

Grants were voted towards twenty-eight mission churches, temporary churches, school churches, or hamlet chapels.

The first resolution, namely, the adoption of the report, was moved by Sir W. RIDDELL, who expressed a hope that although the depression had temporarily checked their prosperity, the Society might hereafter be able to do more work than it had hitherto done. The motion was seconded by Mr. THORNTON, who thought one cause of the diminution of their income was the fact that this Society had given birth to many diocesan societies for the same purpose. They had to meet the competition of their own children; but there were benefits to be got from this parent society that could not be got elsewhere, especially in the matter of church architecture.

The resolution having been adopted,

The Ven. Archdeacon JOHNSON moved a resolution to the effect that the Society deserved a far wider and a more substantial support from Church people generally.

Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. CLIVE, M.P., seconded the resolution, which was agreed to. A vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding having been carried, his LORDSHIP, in responding, said he thought it would be a beneficial sign if it were made evident that the laity took as great an interest in the Church as those professionally connected with it. As to the depression in agriculture, which he believed was the cause of the falling off in the Society's income, he stated that there were parts of England in which the income of the clergy largely depended on land, and he knew of cases in which farms had been thrown up, and the clergymen themselves had to do the best they could with them.

The Incorporated Church Building Society held its usual monthly meeting at the Society's new offices, No. 2, Dean's-yard, Westminster, on Thursday last, Archdeacon Burney in the chair. There were also present Archdeacon Johnson, Canon Cazenove, Canon T. W. Perry, Canon Stapylton, Revs. C. A. Jones and C. F. Norman, Messrs. John Boodle, Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. G. H. W. Windsor Clive, M.P., J. F. France, R. Foster, J. Hilton, Arthur Powell, and the Rev. R. Milburn Blakiston, secretary. The finance report was prepared by Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. G. H. W. Windsor Clive, M.P., Mr. Arthur Powell, and the Rev. G. Miller. Grants of money were made in aid of the following objects—viz.:—Building new churches at South Shields, St. Jude, Durham, £60; Ynyshir, in the parish of Llwynypia, near Llantrissant, Glamorgan, £200, and New Wortley St. Mary, near Leeds, £150; enlarging or otherwise improving the accommodation in the churches at Farlington, St. Leonard's, near Easingwold, Yorks, £20; Leigh, St. Catherine, near Cheltenham, £10; Little Wigborough, St. Stephen, near Colchester, £15; Maldon, St. Mary, Essex, £55; and Menstone-in-Wharfdale, St. John, near Leeds, £30. Grants were also made from the Special Mission Buildings Fund towards providing mission churches at Ash Vale, near Aldershot, £20; Hale-street, in the parish of Holy Trinity, Coventry, £50; and Lowden, near Chippenham, £40. The Society likewise accepted the trust of a sum of money as a repair fund for St. Chad's Church, Everton, Liverpool. The following grants were paid for works completed:—St. Augustine's, Holly Hall, near Dudley, £350; St. Michael's, Stoke Newington, £200; St. Paul's, Stockton-on-Tees, £200; Crook, Durham, £20; Camborne, Cornwall, £20; and Norbiton, Surrey, £25. The annual general court was held the same day at two p.m., the Earl of Devon in the chair.

LITERARY AND OTHER NOTES.

The Dean of Canterbury will write the paper on the Revised Bible which is to appear in the forthcoming issue of the *Quiver*. It will be remembered that the Dean was a member of the Old Testament Revision Company.

The new serial story which, under the title of "My Namesake Marjorie," will be commenced in *Cassell's Magazine* for June, is from the pen of the author of *Who is Sylvia?* The scene is laid partly in England and partly abroad.

Colonel Noble, R.A., has sent to the *Times* the following interesting fact in natural history:—The time of day is announced to the garrison and neighbourhood of Woolwich every day at 1 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. by firing a blank charge of powder from a 9-pounder bronze gun. This gun is mounted, in the Gun Park, on a wooden travelling carriage, which is fitted with two axletree boxes, each about one foot square by six inches deep, with the inside divided into several compartments. This box is designed to carry case-shot and cartridges with the gun in action. The carriage is an old one, and the right axletree-box has a small hole in one of its sides. Some days ago the gunner, on firing the one o'clock gun, observed a sparrow flying out of this hole; and an examination of the box showed that it contained, instead of case-shot, a sparrow's nest with five eggs. The box was carefully padlocked, so as to guard the nest from inquisitive boys, but the gun was fired twice a day as usual; and on the morning of Saturday, May 16, 1885, five little sparrows made their appearance, and are doing well.

The estimates for a new statue of Queen Anne, as well as for the repair of the old one which stands before the west front of St. Paul's Cathedral, have been sent to the Corporation by various sculptors, and also by Messrs. Mowlem, contractors. The sculptors who were invited to compete included Mr. Macarthy and Mr. Fontana, besides the four previously mentioned—viz., Messrs. Birch, Belt, Sheldon, and Lanteret. The Corporation have voted a sum of £1,800 to defray the expenses, but, having regard to the importance of the work, it is believed that that amount must be exceeded. The Corporation have not limited the sculptors as to time, but it is considered likely that the new statue may be completed, and the old one repaired, within a period of two years. The City Lands Committee are sparing no pains to secure the successful execution of the work.

Dr. Cameron, M.P., has sent to the *Standard* some particulars which he has received from Dr. Ferran as to the experiments which that gentleman is making in Spain with reference to the system of inoculation for cholera. According to Dr. Ferran's telegram, the population of Alcira (a town near Valencia, where cholera is now raging) is 16,000, and since the first of the present month 5,432 of its inhabitants have been inoculated with his protective virus. That would leave the number of those not inoculated about 10,500; or, accepting 16,000 as an exact figure, precisely 10,568. Of the 10,500 persons who are not inoculated, cholera has attacked sixty-four, and proved fatal to thirty. Of the 5,432 who have been inoculated it has, according to Dr. Ferran, attacked only seven, and proved fatal in no single case. In other words, since the commencement of the experiment on the 1st of May, one person out of every 163 has been attacked among the uninoculated population, and one person in every 352 has died of cholera; while among the inoculated population only one person in 776 has been attacked, and not a single person in the entire 5,432 has died of the disease. Dr. Ferran concludes his telegram by expressing the desire that a British Commission should be sent to Alcira to verify these results.

In connection with the coming Handel Festival, the editor of the *Magazine of Art* has arranged for the publication of an article, by Mr. R. A. M. Stevenson, on "Handel and His Portraits." Its purpose is partly musical and biographical, and partly one of art criticism. It will be illustrated with engravings of the "Chandos Portrait," painted by Thornhill, from the Fitzwilliam Museum; of the fine Grafoni, in the same collection; of Mr. Henry Littleton's famous Roubillac—the "Vauxhall Statue," as it is called; of Zincke's graphic and interesting miniature, now the property of Mr. H. B. Lennard; of the engravings by Schmidt, which Hawkins thought the best likeness of all; and (by permission of Earl Howe) of the full length, painted by Hudson, for Charles Jennens, the librettist of "Messiah," and from the first an ornament of the "Messiah Room" at Gopsall.

An exhibition of what is described as "want-of-space pictures"—that is, pictures accepted but crowded out at the Royal Academy and the

Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours—supplemented by others to which no such recommendation attaches, was opened in the galleries of the Crystal Palace on Monday, and will remain during the season a free part of the many attractions of the place. The collection of nearly 500 pictures is arranged in the following manner: In the first gallery are water-colour drawings the Academy and Institute had no choice but to return to the artists; in the second gallery are miscellaneous drawings; in the third gallery want-of-space pictures from the Academy; and in the fourth are pictures which have absolutely been rejected or not, as the case may be. In addition to these, in a fifth room are thirty to forty studies by Crystal Palace students, with some other works. Mr. G. A. Storey, A.R.A., exhibits an interesting series of sketches in his "Studies for a picture called 'The Blue Girls of Canterbury,' being twenty-seven portraits of the governess and all the children belonging to the school so called." These are the original sketches for the artist's exhibited work, and it appears that the quaint-looking little lasses went in pairs, at different times, to Mr. Storey to have their portraits taken. Some of the likenesses are most characteristic—we may instance the poor little cripple on crutches—and the governess armed with her Church Service and hymn book, as not being the least so of the number. Mr. B. J. Ottewell's "Russet Morn" has commendable qualities, and the same may be said of Mr. P. May's "Late Autumn," while Mr. A. K. Brown's "Evening on the Clyde" is an effective performance, the stormy sky being cleverly interpreted. "On the Coast near Portland," with wild waves dashing on the beach, and wrecks in the distance, is a work of power and truth. Mr. R. H. Nibbs, who is amongst the foremost contributors, has two large and effective views—"On the Orwell," both broadly treated and successful, without appreciable effort of any kind. Mr. John Absolon, is represented by "Mrs. Bagnet," in illustration of one of Dickens's characters, which is commendable for its soft, pearly tones. In the galleries occupied by paintings there are a few very good examples. "The Old Model," by Agnes Pringle, represents a patriarchal old gentleman "enthroned" in a studio wherein a lady is at work on her model. The subject is skilfully treated. Two rather fine autumn studies are, "The very birds are mute, or if they sing 'tis with so dull a cheer that leaves look pale, dreading the winter near," by Marmaduke Langdale; and "Autumn Gold," an excellent design, in which the ripe autumnal tints are ably reproduced, by W. F. Stocks. Mr. W. Anderson's "Homeward Bound," a country road scene, with farm cottages strongly contrasted against the twilight, sheep and figures in the foreground, deserves a word of praise, the composition being remarkably well arranged. Another good landscape is that by Mr. Charles Stuart, called "Uncertain Weather amongst the Mountains," the gleam of sunlight on the mountain side being skilfully managed. Katherine D. M. Bywater sends a well-painted head of "A Lordling's Daughter, the Fairest of Three." "Out of School"—a large number of children at play on a village green—though not altogether satisfactory, especially as regards the quality of the painting, has yet a good deal in the grouping and distribution of the figures to entitle it to notice. It is by Mr. R. W. Wright. "Squally Weather, Gorleston, Great Yarmouth," a large picture, painted with considerable force, by Mr. W. J. Callcott, adds lustre to the last gallery, which also contains two capital flower studies both of "Azaleas," one by Charles Low, and the other by Mrs. A. Scott. There is also a careful little picture of a girl's head, by Dora Noyes; "La Source," by J. Van der Heyden; and "Morning at Tenby," by G. A. Williams.

The Nineteenth Century Art Society opened their summer exhibition on Monday at their galleries in Conduit-street, Regent-street. As is usual at the exhibitions held in these galleries, there is a great deal to interest the visitor, the show being altogether of more than average excellence. Mr. Teend King's "Billet-Doux"—a lady in mob cap and figured dress—is a fair specimen of this artist's skilful handicraft. Close by is a tiny work by Mr. H. Thomas Bromley of "Sheep at Rest," remarkable for the prevailing tone and correct drawing of the sheep. Mr. Walter J. Shaw has sent one of his studies of broken sea, "After a Gale: the Avon Bar, Bantham, South Devon," a very effective rendering of a difficult subject. "Lingering Light," by Mr. W. Anderson, has excellent qualities, the straggling village standing out in sombre relief against the yellow twilight. Mr. E. H. Holder contributes "In Sylvan Solitude," foliage and rocks, with a running stream, treated with a discrimination, and in exquisite keeping. Mr. A. K. Brown's "Thundery Weather"—the estuary of the Clyde—has good qualities, and is altogether an imposing and successful work. "Richmond Hill from Twickenham," by Mr. Tom Griffiths, who has rendered with considerable fidelity the features of this pleasing landscape, occupies the place of honour. Mr. V. P. Yglesias, who has a partiality for powerful effects, which he reproduces with unerring power, has painted a variety of shipping by moonlight, "On the Orwell," a remarkably fine performance. Mr. Thomas M. Hemy's "Old Sunderland" is hardly worthy of so large a canvas, although the subject is fairly well treated. "A Sympathetic Passage," by Mr. William Fitz, forcibly reminds one of Mr. Dendy Sadler's work, the musical monks, jolly and rubicund, presenting characteristics calculated to evoke a smile. Mr. Andrew MacCallum's "Golden Moments," a warmly coloured and effectively treated landscape, is highly commendable. Amongst the principal drawings in the water-colour gallery are Mr. David Green's "Luggers off Hastings," and "Blackpool, near Dartmouth"—both clever performances. The same may be said of Mr. T. B. Hard's "Scheveningen," low tide with fishing-boats and figures on the sands. "Bamborough Castle," by the same artist, gives a good idea of the erst famous Northumbrian fortress with surrounding sandhills. Mr. R. H. Nibbs, a Brighton artist, has given a view of "The Thames at Greenwich," with schooner lying dry at an old wharf, and barges on the river. It is a powerful picture, but hardly realises a Londoner's idea of this busy portion of the river. "A Lady's Portrait," by Mr. Henry G. Fanner, a work in pastel, has commendable qualities, and adds to the variety and interest of the gallery.

THE QUEEN'S DRAWING ROOM.

On Monday, the 18th inst., in brilliant weather, the Princess of Wales held what will most probably be the last Drawing Room of the season, on behalf of Her Majesty. It was by no means so numerously attended as the one of the previous week, when the Queen was present in person. The Princess was enabled to leave the Palace at twenty minutes past four, but there were nevertheless over one hundred and fifty presentations, and among them Sir William Des Vœux, K.C.M.G., Governor of Fiji and High Commissioner of the Western Pacific, who was presented with his wife. The Marchioness of Carmarthen was presented; the Marchioness of Lothian presented her daughter, Lady Anne Kerr; and Countess Ferrers her daughter, Miss Walsh. There was an unusual number of Australian and American ladies present, wearing magnificent toilettes, and the brides presented were almost more numerous than the *débutantes*. The Princess of Wales entered the Throne Room at three o'clock, accompanied by her husband and eldest daughter, the Prince and Princess Christian, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar. It was specially noted that the Princess of Wales had rarely appeared in a more becoming dress, which was one of many ordered by her from Mrs. Sims, of Dublin. The petticoat was yellow satin and silver brocade, draped with silver lace, the bodice matching exactly; the train was of gold Indian gauze embroidered in silver. It would hardly have been possible to have had a more regal toilet. A tiara of diamonds, and diamond and sapphire ornaments, with some six orders, including the Victoria and Albert, and the Danish Family Order, completed it. Her daughter for the first time appeared at Court in colours in lieu of white, the train was blue brocade, the petticoat blue tulle, with bunches of cherry blossoms. Her ornaments were diamonds, pearls, and sapphires, and she also wore the Victoria and Albert Order. The dress of Princess Christian formed a charming contrast—the train of brown embroidered satin; the petticoat of gold colour, also richly embroidered; ornaments, turquoise and diamonds. Among her many orders were the Prussian Order for the Care of the Sick and Wounded, the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, and the Royal Red Cross.

Very springlike was a lovely gown trimmed with large bunches of lilac upon white satin and crêpe, and made with a train of green velvet. It illustrated, in woven texture, the contrast of tint with which our suburbs are resplendent, the lilac tree being in full bloom. In another Court gown the petticoat consisted of Chartreuse tulle, draped with effective, studied simplicity, and tasselled with yellowish pearls. Knots of green ribbon velvet in a deeper tone of green served to throw the tint of the tulle into artistic relief. The train worn with this dress was of costly brocade, in which the colours were probably copied from the rich textures worn by our grandmothers. The velvet flowers were in the softest tones of mauve, yellow, pink, and greyish green. The whole was lined with satin matching the the yellowish tone of the pearls, and it would be difficult to find anywhere a more perfect union of lovely tints, which were still further mellowed and subdued by the addition of some priceless old rose point upon the brocaded velvet of the train. In another dress, the petticoat was of tulle in one of the new shades of dark green. The whole of the edge was trimmed with tea-roses in the warmest tints of their well-known beautiful colouring. These, set in begonia leaves, were veiled with light folds of the green tulle. The train was of pink ottoman, in the brightest tint of the roses. A bodice and train of salmon-pink satin, brocaded with velvet leaves in terracotta colour, and lined with terracotta-tinted satin, was worn over a skirt of salmon-coloured crêpe-de-chine, the soft folds of which were held by knots of gold and silver lace and clusters of pink feathers. Another effective union of tints was seen in a train of moss-green satin lined with pale blue, one side of the train being turned back so as to show the cerulean satin lining. The other side was trimmed with plumes of blue feathers. The petticoat was of tulle, in the same tone of green with the train.

An entire skirt was made of gold and silver galloon, used as insertion between rows of cream-tinted lace. The train was of white brocade in a design of large crescent moons. Being lined with yellow satin in a bright golden shade, the tint showed through, warming up the brocade in a subtle way, that only those who had had a glimpse of the lining could account for. A ruching of golden-yellow tulle placed beneath the edges of the train still further heightened the effect. The trimming consisted of clusters of yellow and pink roses massed together, and mixed with the delicate fronds of the maidenhair fern. Another instance in which the galloon for which there is such a demand was effectively used was in a dress of salmon-pink satin, entirely covered with flowered net. The gold had a rich effect over this bright colour. The train was an artistic mingling of gold colour and salmon pink. A magnificent gold and white brocade was edged with gold-coloured tulle puffed over white. The floral trimmings were the long, liberally-flowered stalks of hollyhocks in a rich golden colour, tied with knots of gold and silver galloon.

An unusually handsome and striking dress had a train of black velvet lined with gold-coloured satin. The petticoat was composed of similar satin, with revers consisting entirely of shaded beads in gold, amber, orange, mauve, dark green, and other tints, forming a rich arabesque of tints. On the bodice was a similar trimming on a ground of black velvet relieved with jet. One of the bridal dresses that appeared at the Drawing Room was brightened by a dainty trimming of true lovers' knots embroidered in pearls, each apparently holding down to the satin train a fold of the ribbon with which it was trimmed. Another bridal dress was remarkable for the unusually massive pearl embroidery which appeared in the front of the skirt. The white lilac on another wedding gown might have been freshly gathered, so natural did it look, with some of the branches of bloom still shrouded in their tender veil of green. A petticoat of white satin and tulle was tied with knots of silver ribbon and pearls, the satin being edged with a handsome trimming of pearl passementerie. The train worn with this was of cloth of silver brocaded in pink, and was trimmed with magnificent old point and clusters of white ostrich feathers. Another white train was covered with lace in a design of maidenhair over white satin. A petticoat of draped white crêpe-de-chine was worn with a train of white brocade in a design of true lovers' knots, and was trimmed with sashes of ribbon caught with branches of white lilac.

Not many painted dresses, says the *Daily News*, were worn at the Drawing Rooms of the present season, embroidery having, to a great extent, taken the place of hand-painting. On one dress, however, a novel and beautiful specimen of the latter art was seen in the shape of a panel of white satin, on which white velvet had been applied in the form of grapes and vine leaves. These were not only painted in the natural colours of the leaves and fruit, but afterwards embroidered in silks of the same tints. Groups of white ostrich feathers threw the tints of the painting and embroidery into relief by their snowy tinting, and an effective background was afforded by the bodice and train of black velvet lined with ivory satin and edged with a ruche of tulle and beads. Some very beautiful point-de-gaze was draped on train, petticoat, and bodice, and a bunch of white feathers was tastefully arranged on one side of the bodice.

White flowers seemed the favourites for bouquets, and of these lilies of the valley were the most numerous; their large, full bells, a score perhaps on one stem, proving the care expended upon the cultivation of this sweetly perfumed little flower. A bouquet of white rosebuds and lilies of the valley, with only the young leaves of the roses for relief, was one of the most beautiful that appeared at the Drawing Room. Another consisted of yellow roses and marguerites of precisely the same shade. An enormous bouquet of white blooms with a fringe of cyclamens of every shade was carried with a dress of palest waterblue. Nothing could have been happier than the union of colours. A large bunch of the softly-tinted Nice azaleas was tied with moss-green velvet ribbons matching the train, while the flowers themselves reproduced the colours of the brocade that lined it. In another bouquet orchids played the principal part, and a costly cluster of the same lovely flowers was fastened upon a corner of the train. The brilliant tints of a large posy of double variegated tulips accompanied one of the numerous dresses in which gold brocade was freely used. A beautiful contrast was produced by grouping together scarlet anemones and yellow marguerites, but the blooms scarcely looked as though they would survive the hour. One lady made a great success with a bouquet of pink and white flowers. Her dress was white, her train cloth of silver brocaded with pink, and in the flowers these component colours were repeated. Another displayed a bunch of rare exotics of a brilliant scarlet tint, which almost "killed" the rather fainter colours of her dress. A bouquet of red, white, yellow, and pink roses, tied with ribbons in which all these shades were echoed, once more proved the title of the rose to be called the queen of flowers. A bouquet of white lilac was arranged with exquisite skill, the sprays bending outwards from the centre with the most perfect symmetry and yet a compactness that made the fragrant burden, exaggerated as was its size, comparatively easy to handle and to carry.

Ecclesiastical.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Rev. F. J. B. Allnatt, Rector of Drummondville, to Rectory of St. Matthew's, Quebec.

Rev. I. K. Anderson, to Vicarage of Bussage. Patron, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol.

Rev. A. W. Antenbring, Curate of St. Clement's, Hastings, and Chaplain to the East Sussex Infirmary, to be English Chaplain at Coblentz. Patrons, the Church Committee.

Rev. S. Bardsley, Rector of Finchley, to be Rural Dean of the Highgate Deanery. Patron, the Bishop of London.

Rev. A. R. Bartlett, to be Minor Canon of Sydney Cathedral.

Rev. T. C. V. Barstow, to Rectory of Peatling Parva. Patron, the Rev. W. Berry.

Rev. H. Bury, Senior Curate of Prestwich Parish Church, to Vicarage of St. Peter's, Stockport.

Rev. E. B. Charlton, to Broughton Chapelry. Patron, Sir Henry Broughton.

Rev. F. H. Dalby, Curate of St. Luke's, Old-street, to Rectory of Faldingworth and Buslingthorpe, Lincolnshire.

Rev. A. A. Dupont, Minister of St. Julien's, Southampton, to Chaplaincy of the French Protestant Church, Bloomsbury-street.

Rev. G. Gibb, to Vicarage of Hambledon. Patrons, the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln.

Rev. E. J. Gough, Vicar of Christ Church, Wolverhampton, to Incumbency of St. Paul's, Dundee.

Rev. G. P. Grantham, to Vicarage of Ston Easton, with Farrington Gurney.

Rev. E. I. Gregory, Vicar of Halberton, to Rural Deanery of Tiverton East.

Rev. J. Hamlet, to Perpetual Curacy of Barrington. Patron, the Rev. V. S. S. Coles.

Rev. F. Hancock, to be Assistant Inspector of Schools in the Deanery of Dunster.

Rev. J. B. Hawkesford, Curate of Quarry Bank, Staffordshire, to Vicarage of Charsfield, Suffolk. Patron, Mr. Edward Gowing Hodgson, Charsfield.

Rev. J. D. Home, Vicar of Barmer, Norfolk. Patron, the Rector of Burnham Deepdale.

Rev. E. F. Hopkinson, to be Assistant Inspector of Schools in the Deanery of Ilchester.

Rev. W. Jones, Curate of Sittingbourne, to be Chaplain to the Maidstone Union. Patrons, the Board of Guardians.

Rev. H. I. Kilner, Rector of Chedburgh, to Rectory of Little Saxham, Bury St. Edmund's. Patron, the Marquis of Bristol.

Rev. P. E. Mainwaring, to Rectory of Whitmore. Patron, Mr. C. H. Mainwaring.

Rev. J. P. Nicholson, Curate, to Vicarage of Muker. Patron, the Vicar of Grinton.

Rev. M. A. Nisbet, Rector of Ringwould, late R.D. of Gloucester, to be Chaplain to the High Sheriff of Gloucestershire.

Rev. J. Oakden, to Vicarage of Hilderstone. Patron, Mr. J. Bourne.

Rev. E. B. Pigott, to Rectory of Ellisfield. Patrons, the Trustees.

Rev. S. H. Pink, Curate, to Vicarage of Chapel-en-le-Frith. Patrons, the Parishioners.

Rev. J. Plumstead, to Vicarage of Wetton. Patron, Mr. E. A. Blackett.

Rev. A. S. Prior, Vicar of SS. Peter and Paul, Rishton; to Vicarage of North Frodingham.

Rev. J. W. Rhodes, to Perpetual Curacy of St. Chad's, Everton. Patrons, the Rev. W. H. Woodward, Incumbent of St. George's, Everton, and Mr. C. T. Gostenhofer, of Oxton, county Chester, surviving Patrons.

Rev. H. L. Rumsey, to Vicarage of Denstone. Patron, Sir Percival Heywood, Bart.

Rev. A. E. Seymour, Vicar of Barnstaple, Devon, to Vicarage of Bromsgrove. Patrons, the Dean and Chapter of Worcester.

Rev. J. F. Smith, to be Prebendary of Wellington in Lichfield Cathedral. Patron, the Bishop of Lichfield.

Rev. C. D. Stooks, Curate-in-Charge of Crondall, Hants; to Vicarage of Yately. Patron, the Bishop of Winchester.

Rev. R. C. Thomas, to Perpetual Curacy of Wootton, Berks. Patron, Mr. R. C. Fergusson.

Rev. R. D. Tyssen, Rector of South Hackney, to Incumbency of St. Patrick's, Hove. Patron the Bishop of Winchester.

Rev. E. L. Walsh, to Perpetual Curacy of St Mary's, Hornbey, Huddersfield.

Rev. H. West, Vicar of North Frodingham, Yorkshire; to Vicarage of SS. Peter and Paul, Rishton.

Rev. G. H. Whitaker, to be Residentiary Canon in Truro Cathedral. Patron, the Bishop.

Rev. D. Williams, to Rectory of Llanbrithyd. Patron, Mr. C. Aubrey-Aubrey.

Rev. J. Worthington, Vicar of Farnworth, near Bolton, to Rectory of Ashbury-with-Northlew, North Devon. Patron, the Crown.

Rev. W. Wright, Senior Curate of Childwall, near Liverpool, to Rectory of Much Woolton, Lancashire. Paton, Canon Warr.

LICENCE TO CURACY BY THE BISHOP OF CHESTER.—Rev. Edmund Oldfield, to Wilmslow.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF LICHFIELD.—Revs. J. S. Dixon, to St. Stephen's Mission, Smethwick; Arthur Pearman, to Christ Church, Stone; Inglis C. E. Scott, B.A., to Fenton.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF LIVERPOOL.—Revs. James Henry Bocke, M.A., to St. Peter and St. Nicholas, Liverpool; John Adolphus Drummond, to St. Elphin's, Warrington; Alfred Webb, to St. Catherine's, Wigan.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER.—Revs. Richard Tomlinson Gardner, B.A., to Christ Church, Lee; Werner Henry Kolle Soames, to St. Alphege, Greenwich.

OBITUARY.

Rev. J. D. Havard, B.A., Incumbent of St. Paul's, Helsby.

May 12, at Belfont Lodge, Middlesex, the Rev. Henry Engleheart, aged 84.

May 13, at Tivoli Lodge, Beulah-hill, the Rev. George Dixon Bradshaw, aged 81.

May 14, at Clogherny, the Ven. Robert Vickers Dixon, D.D., Ex. F.T.C.D., Archdeacon of Armagh and Rector of Clogherny.

May 14, Frederick Joplin, M.A., Rector of Soulge and Debach, aged 61.

May 14, Laurence Stuart Morris, fifty-one years Rector of Thornton-in-Craven, aged 75.

May 14, at Fishlake Vicarage, the Rev. George Radcliffe Ornsby, M.A., of Pembroke College, Oxford, late Curate of Armthorpe, aged 35.

May 15, at Marsh Rectory, the Rev. Richard Messiter, M.A., Corpus Christi College, Oxford, Rector of Caundle Marsh and Purse Caundle and Bratton St. Mary, for sixty-one years Rector of the parishes, aged 84.

May 19, at Little Ponton, the Rev. Canon Worsley, aged 85.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

It has been decided to postpone the visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury to St. David's College, Lampeter, to October 14 or 15. It is intended to begin work upon the new College buildings without delay, reserving the ceremony of laying the foundation stone for the Archbishop's visit.

The Bishop of Lincoln and the Bishop-elect of Brisbane have become patrons of the Incorporated Free and Open Church Association.

Another valuable living in the diocese of Durham has fallen vacant by the death, in his 68th year, of the Rev. Canon Gray, rector of Wolsingham, near Darlington, examining chaplain to the Bishop of Chester, and Chaplain to the Earl of Sefton. The benefice is worth £1,000 a year and is the gift of the Bishop of Chester.

We regret to hear that the Rev. Douglas How, a son of the Bishop of Bedford, has resigned the living of St. James's, Edgbaston, on account of illness. Mr. How went to Birmingham in the autumn of last year, from a quiet country parish in Dorsetshire, to undertake the charge of a district presenting many harassing difficulties, and he not only threw himself into his work with zeal and enthusiasm, but undertook the additional responsibility and worry consequent upon his effecting a complete revolution in the conduct of the services of the church.

The *Rock* says it is reported that the advowson of St. James's, Hatcham, of which the Rev. Arthur Tooth was formerly the incumbent, has changed hands. It is stated to have been purchased by Archdeacon Richardson.

Canon Worsley, of Ripon, died on Tuesday at his rectory of Little Ponton, Lincolnshire, which he had held for sixty years.

The Rev. Canon Legge, vicar of Lewisham, has been elected in the three archdeaconries of Rochester, Southwark, and Kingston-on-Thames, to fill the vacancy in the Lower House of Convocation occasioned by the death of the Rev. Canon Pritchett, rector of St. Paul's, Charlton.

Several landowners in Kent who have farms vacant at the present time have been requested to let them on a new condition—namely, that in future the landlord shall pay the extraordinary tithe. In each case the application has been refused, the amount of rent offered being considered too low.

The Bishop of Rochester has been recruiting his health on the shores of the Mediterranean. He hopes to return a little after Whitsuntide.

Dr. Cramer Roberts, Bishop of Nassau, Bahamas, is returning to England with the object of resigning his see. He has, however, consented to hold the bishopric until his successor has been selected.

It is gratifying to note, in connection with the increasing observance of Holy Thursday, that there were eighty-seven communicants at Coppenhall Parish Church, Crewe, on Ascension Day, thirty of whom communicated at 4.30 a.m.

The death is announced, at the age of 78, of Mr. John Martin, the well-known prosecutor in the case of Martin *v.* Mackonochie. He was a solicitor, and originally conducted some schools in the parish of St. Alban's, Holborn, but during the latter portion of the lengthy proceedings his connection with them was little more than nominal.

The Queen and the Prince of Wales have sent letters to the Archbishop of Canterbury acknowledging the receipt of copies of the Revised Version of the Bible, and congratulating those who have been engaged on the work upon the successful result of their labours.

The public will learn with great regret that the Bishop of Peterborough has suffered a relapse. His Lordship had apparently recovered from his illness, and had resumed his duties, but a return of his former distressing symptoms has compelled him to retire to Stoke Dry, and place himself under medical care. On Monday he continued to be seriously indisposed, although the pain and fever had somewhat abated.

The Assemblies of the Established and Free Churches of Scotland were opened on Thursday in Edinburgh—that of the Established Church, with the usual state ceremonial, by the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord High Commissioner. The day was observed as a holiday, in celebration of the Queen's birthday, and consequently the procession, which was on a more elaborate scale than usual, was witnessed by large crowds, the streets being lined with soldiers.

The Duke of Westminster presided on Thursday afternoon over a meeting at Grosvenor House on behalf of a scheme suggested by the London Diocesan Council for the benefit of young men, the object being to assist clerks and others coming to London to find respectable lodgings, and to provide them with means of amusement and recreation, as well as of looking after their intellectual instruction and religious welfare. Among those present were the Bishop of Bath and Wells, Lord Crewe, the Archdeacon of London, and Canon Barker. The chairman apologised for the absence of Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., and Mr. G. Russell, M.P.

Acting as Surrogate for Lord Penzance, the Vicar Choral of York Minster yesterday week had before him at the York Chancery Court the case of the Rev. James Bell-Cox, perpetual curate of St. Margaret's, Liverpool, who is charged with Ritualistic practices contrary to law. Mr. W. Lawton, proctor of York, appeared for the promoter of the suit, Mr. James Hakes, surgeon, of Liverpool. The defendant did not appear. Mr. Lawton said he accused the defendant of contumacy, and as there was no appearance he prayed that the Court would be pleased to direct proceedings to be carried on to a sentence or final interlocutory decree. The Surrogate decreed accordingly. Mr. Lawton then prayed for a citation for the defendant to appear personally or by his proctor on June 4, with the intimation that if he failed to appear the Court would proceed in the suit *in pœnam*, returnable on June 4. The Surrogate assented. The defendant has in the service against him to answer eleven charges. They are:—Using lighted candles during the Holy Communion, the elevation of the paten, mixing water with the wine, kneeling or prostration during the prayer of consecration, bowing towards a crucifix, wearing vestments, causing to be said or sung the *Agnus Dei*, preventing the people from seeing the breaking of the bread, and washing the cup and kissing the Book.

The Ven. Robert Vickers Dixon, D.D., Archdeacon of Armagh, died last week at his residence, Clogherny Rectory, Omagh, county Tyrone, after a long illness. Dr. Dixon graduated at Trinity College, Dublin, taking his Bachelor's degree in 1833. He was elected to a Fellowship of his college in 1839, proceeded to his M.A. degree in the following year, and received the degrees of B.D. and D.D. in 1862. He was ordained deacon by the Archbishop of Dublin in 1838, and admitted to priest's orders by the Bishop of Down in 1839. Dr. Dixon had held the rectory of Clogherny, in the diocese of Armagh, since 1853, and was appointed Archdeacon of Armagh in 1883. He had been for some time Chaplain to the Archbishop of Armagh, and was a member of the Senate.

The Bishop of Lincoln was enthroned in the Cathedral on Wednesday. The Mayor and Corporation met the Bishop at the sub-deanery, and accompanied him to the Minster, passing through the 3rd Battalion of the Lincolnshire Regiment. All the members of the Chapter were present, and many clergymen, besides a large number of laity and ladies. The Bishop was conducted to the Communion-table, where he knelt. On rising he was conducted to the north side, where he presented to the Sub-Dean the letters requisitory, praying for his induction, installation, and enthronisation. The Sub-Dean directed the Registrar to read them aloud, which having been done the Sub-Dean said the Chapter accepted them with great willingness. The Bishop promised fidelity to the Church of Lincoln and the inviolable observation of its ancient customs. The Sub-Dean then conducted the Bishop to the throne, and, causing him to sit down there, spoke the usual words of induction. The service proceeded, and at its close the Bishop was conducted to the Chapter-house, where he was assigned the chief seat. The Sub-Dean entertained the Bishop and his Chaplains, the Canons-Residentiary, and Prebendaries at luncheon, and the Precentor and Chancellor received in a tent some 500 clergy and laity at a cold collation.

The Bishop of Exeter was on Tuesday afternoon entertained at a banquet by the Mayor and corporation of the city in the Guildhall. Amongst those who were present at the request of the Mayor to meet his Lordship were Earl Fortescue, the Dean of Exeter, Colonel Freemantle, commanding the brigade depôt, and some Nonconformist ministers. The Mayor, in proposing "The Health of the Bishop," assured his Lordship of a hearty welcome to Exeter. The Bishop, in responding, said he had never thought that he should be privileged to hold, if they would allow him to call it so, a fatherly office in the county of Devon. He would not endeavour to conceal from himself that there were those who would not reckon themselves amongst the children of England's Church, but he was quite sure that if he could not claim from them the title of father they would extend to him the title of brother. To them he extended a most brotherly welcome, and he was quite sure that brotherly feeling would deepen and strengthen and broaden as they worked together for Christ.

The annual report of the Rochester Diocesan Society shows receipts amounting to £7,803, against £7,840 in 1883. Last year £4,806 was paid for living agents, and £5,145 for churches, Mission buildings, and sites. The needs of the diocese are far greater than are at all realised. In London north of the Thames there are 700,000 abject poor, while we have in South London, it is computed, 900,000, and this without any West-end interest definitely attached. The work under the charge of the Ten Churches Committee has made a considerable advance. The number of consecrated churches has increased from three to five by the opening of St. Mark, Peckham, and St. Katherine, Rotherhithe. Two more, St. Luke, Bermondsey, and St. Andrew, Battersea, were to be consecrated before Easter. For the eighth church, St. Bartholomew, Camberwell, the committee have voted £4,000. The ninth church, the gift of Mr. Francis Peek, whose philanthropy originated this effort of church extension, will be ready at Easter, 1886; and a site for the tenth—St. Stephen, Battersea—has been secured. An additional £5,000 must, however, be obtained before the undertaking can be completed by the payment of a sufficient grant for the building of this church; the total of donations hitherto paid or promised being £45,480 2s. 6d. A breathing space of several months has been allowed since the greater part of this sum was received. But the time has now arrived when, as is suggested in a recent pastoral of the Bishop, the matter should be "got out of hand and done with."

The Ecclesiastical Commissioners are stated to have issued the following circular to their agricultural tenants:—

"The Ecclesiastical Commissioners are prepared to sell to the agricultural tenants on their estate at ——, at a price to be agreed upon, the freehold of their holdings on the following terms:—The Commissioners would require the payment of £[illegible] out of each £100 of the purchase money on the day from which the transaction takes effect, and would allow the balance (that is £85 out of each £100) to remain upon mortgage to be paid with interest in equal half-yearly instalments spread over a period of thirty years. The balance of the purchase money, with interest at the rate of 3½ per [illegible] would be paid off by sixty half-yearly [illegible]ents of £2 15s. each for every £100 re[illegible] on mortgage, being at the rate of £[illegible] per cent. per annum for thirty years, at the e[illegible]hich time the whole liability would have been [illegible] discharged. The title of the Commissioners is Parliamentary, and the conveyance and mortgage deeds would be in the simplest form; and, assuming the title and the deeds to be accepted without question, the deeds would be provided by the Commissioners, free of charge to the purchaser, subject only to the payment of the stamp duty on the conveyance and mortgage. Minerals, with full mineral rights, would be reserved to the Commissioners. The mortgage deed would have a schedule attached which would show the balance of the loan remaining unpaid after each of the half-yearly instalments has been paid; and, should it suit the convenience of a purchaser, the Commissioners would at any time accept payment of the balance without requiring the usual notice. Should the tenant be unable or unwilling to purchase his holding, the Commissioners would feel at liberty at the end of, say, one year from the date of their offer being made, to dispose of the property, subject, of course, to the existing tenancy, and with or without similar facilities as to the payment of purchase money. In order that the proposition may be fully understood the following example is given:—Suppose A to be the tenant of twenty acres of land with a house, &c., thereon, at a rent of £45 per annum, the price required for the purchase of the freehold being, say, £1,300. Of this sum there would be paid down at the outset £195, leaving £1,105 on mortgage of the property. The half-yearly payment in respect of the mortgage, calculated at £3 10s. per cent. per annum, would be £30 7s. 9d. This payment would clear off the mortgage debt in thirty years. If at any time during that period—say, at the end of the fifteenth year—A should be in a position to pay off the balance of the mortgage, the Commissioners would be willing at once to accept such balance, which in this case would be £698 0s. 9d. The stamp duty payable would be £8—viz., £6 10s. for the purchase deed, and £1 10s. for the mortgage deed.—10, *Whitehall-place, London, S.W., April* 23, 1885."

MAY MEETINGS.

The 231st anniversary of the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy was celebrated on Wednesday with the usual service and festive gathering. The annual service in the afternoon at St. Paul's Cathedral, conducted by Dr. Stainer, was of an elaborate character, the choir of 350 voices being supplemented by a full orchestra. In the evening the members of the Corporation and friends were entertained at dinner by the Merchant Taylors' Company at their hall—the Lord Mayor presiding. After the usual loyal toasts, the Lord Mayor gave "Prosperity to the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy, and the health of its president, the Archbishop of Canterbury." The claims of the society to their consideration on behalf of a body of men who devoted their lives to ministering to the highest interests of mankind ought to appeal to them with peculiar force, more especially when they remembered that it was for the relief of cases of suffering and distress among a body of high-minded English gentlemen of education and social position. It had been said that the sorrows of the English clergy were known to no one but their Bishops, and such an institution as that in whose interests they had met that night, and which ministered to those sorrows in a delicate manner, could only be regarded as a great blessing. Although the society had a large funded capital, it was unable to meet efficiently the claims which came before them. The Archbishop of Canterbury, in responding to the toast, alluded to the loss the corporation had suffered by the deaths of Bishop Jackson, Bishop Piers Claughton, and the late Lord Mayor. Among other events that had occurred since the previous festival the completion of the revision of the Bible was worthy of note, and he hoped that a work that had involved 792 days in execution would not be without advantage to the Church. He might add that it had given employment to some 2,000 workmen and had severely taxed the resources of the Stationers' and Leathersellers' Companies in bringing it to completion. If anything were needed to increase their respect for their fellow-countrymen of the working classes, it would be the fact that one of the University printers had indignantly refused the temptation of £2,000 for an early copy of the Revised Bible. The difficulties of the clergy at the present time were more severe than at any former period, and the cases that came before the Bishops were enough to make their hearts ache. The English clergy were the friends of the poor and the companions of the rich, and he earnestly asked for increased subscriptions to the funds of the corporation. In conclusion, the Archbishop proposed "The health of the Lord Mayor." The Lord Mayor having briefly acknowledged the toast, gave "The health of the Bishop of London, and other Prelates present." The Bishop of London, in reply, said he had had great experience in a country diocese of the sufferings of the clergy, but his only experience of the diocese of London hitherto was that of its overwhelming work. He regretted that the corporation was not better known and supported in the provinces. For the remaining toasts the Bishop of Carlisle responded for "The House of Lords," and Mr. Tomlinson, M.P., for "The House of Commons." Mr. Sheriff Whitehead performed a similar office for the sheriffs, and the Warden of the Fishmongers' Company for the stewards. The toast of "The Merchant Taylors' Company," responded to by the Deputy-Master, closed the proceedings.

The Marquis of Lorne presided on Wednesday evening at the annual meeting in connection with Dr. Barnardo's homes at Exeter Hall, which was crowded. The band of the Home and a choir of 750 children contributed a selection of music, accompanied on the organ by Mr. S. F. Dalladay. The report stated there were twenty-seven institutions now comprehended in the work of the homes. From 1866 to March 31, 1885, 1,829 boys and girls have actually been rescued; of these 1,812 were in residence during the year, including those who were on the books on April 1, 1883. 602 girls and 754 boys are still in the institutions, while 2,490 other children received education in whole or in part during the year. 360 children were emigrated during the same period—320 boys and girls going to Canada, 9 girls to South Africa, and 21 boys and girls to Australia. In the City Messenger Brigade 33 lads were employed throughout the year, the gross earnings for 1884-5 being £742 18s. 9d., of which £700 was taken home by the boys. The earnings of 20 shoeblacks in the Union Jack Brigade were £341 3s. 11d. for the year. The earnings of the woodchoppers were £1,769 9s. 7d.; the gross amount during the twelve months for the three industries being £2,853 12s. 2d. The donations for all purposes during the year amounted to £60,423, which is the highest amount ever reached, and showed an increase over the previous year of £4,709. As regards the expenditure, £16,294 was spent upon the Boys' Homes; £14,210 upon the Girls' Homes; £3,225, the whole amount due, was repaid on account of the mortgage. The thirteen other district missions absorbed £17,200; for sundry additions, alterations, and repairs to the fabric of the various institutions £7,311, so that the bankers' account was actually overdrawn on the 31st of March by £5,469 14s. 8d. The institutions now in process of enlargement or building will be completed during the present year, bringing up the numbers of boys and girls in residence to about 2,300. The proceedings having been opened by prayer by the Bishop of Victoria (Hong Kong), the noble Chairman, who was loudly cheered, addressed the meeting, expressing his regret that he was occupying the place of one whom they all mourned, the late Lord Cairns. There was almost no end to the class of work which these institutions undertook; and he thought they might congratulate themselves upon the fact that Englishmen knew how to stretch forth the helping hand. His Lordship was perfectly certain that, with careful selection, they could not do wrong in sending children to Canada. The present troubles in the north-west could not possibly affect any scheme such as was proposed in the report, of founding a second distributing home in that territory. He was pleased to know that it was proposed to erect a special cottage and a mission hall at the Ilford "Village" in memory of the late Earl Cairns. The Rev. H. Webb-Peploe said the homes represented one of the most remarkable movements of the present day, and had brought before them the solution of one of the greatest problems. Sir Charles Tupper, K.C.M.G., High Commissioner for Canada, said there were avenues for development in Canada in which children from the homes could do honour to the country which they left, and be of advantage to the country to which they went. Dr. Barnardo explained the reason for the overdraft, and stated that after the expiration of about two and a half years they hoped to acquire all that they could work with advantage to themselves and the children, when they would have under their care 2,300 boys and girls. The contributions during the evening reached £2,053, including £650 from Sir James Tyler, to build a cottage at the village at Ilford.

Exeter Hall was crowded on the occasion of the distribution of scholars' prizes and the forty-first anniversary in connection with the Ragged School Union, and the proceedings were throughout of a most enthusiastic character. A letter was read from the President, the Earl of Shaftesbury, expressing his regret at his inability to be present on account of indisposition, and in his absence his place was filled by Sir R. W. Carden, M.P. At the suggestion of the Chairman a telegram was forwarded to his Lordship conveying the deep regret of the audience at his enforced absence. Some time was taken up with the distribution of books, &c., to 815 scholars from 70 Ragged Schools who had been in service twelve months. Mr. J. Kirk, the secretary, read extracts from the report, which passed under review the various objects the Union had in view, and the work that had been done during the previous year. Ragged Schools, it said, were designed to reach the poorest, and hence their distinctive mark. Seven hundred and seventy-three girls had been placed in situations. The Committee had instituted a "Shaftesbury Fund," and an unexpected legacy of £900 had been apportioned to this fund by the Committee, which, with special gifts, had been raised to £1,372. It was proposed to perpetuate General Gordon's memory, who was associated with the poor children at Gravesend and Manchester, by a memorial at the former place. The death of Earl Cairns and the late Lord Mayor was also referred to. The number of buildings or mission centres affiliated to the Union was 187—an increase of seven over the total of the previous year. The amount of contributions had been £6,153, and of this sum £4,242 was devoted to the local schools in the shape of grants and other means of assisting the work. The Chairman spoke highly of the importance of the Union as a means for the education of poor neglected children, and expressed his concurrence with its objects. Among the other speakers were the Bishop of Bath and Wells, the Revs. B. Cassin, J. M. Gibbon, and H. J. Bergner, and Dr. Cory. A choir of 800 voices, under the direction of Mr. J. Proudman, greatly enlivened the proceedings.

The anniversary meeting of the Sunday School Union was held at Exeter Hall, Mr. Samuel Smith, M.P., President of the Union, in the chair. The 82nd annual report stated, amongst many other things, that the International Bible Reading Association was rapidly extending in this and other lands. The interest taken in the Continental work of the Union had deepened during the year, and for the first time contributions had been received from some of the colonial unions. In Austria the stringent laws in force were still very unfavourable to the development of the Sunday-school system in that country. Ten new schools had been started in France during the year, and a Sunday-school Union had been reorganised in Berlin. Nineteen new schools had been opened in Germany; and there are now in Holland 38 sections of the Sunday-school Union. Numerous schools had also been opened in Sweden, and each canton in Switzerland has now its Sunday-school Union. The local examinations of teachers and scholars had been eminently successful. The net profit on the business of the year had amounted to £2,098. The contributions for the same period showed a reduction of more than £300 upon that of the previous year, and amounted to only £1,220; and, as the amount expended on the manifold operations of the Union reached £4,079, the deficit, which had been increasing year by year, now amounted to over £2,000. The Union now comprises fourteen London auxiliaries and 205 local Unions, fifty-four schools having been received into union during the year; and it had affiliated to it 5,405 schools, 129,015 teachers, and 1,227,148 scholars, an increase upon last year of twenty schools, 2,020 teachers, and 12,847 scholars. During the twelve months 15,676 scholars had joined Christian Churches. The Chairman said he could not, like his predecessor Mr. Mundella, survey the Sunday-school question from the mountain top of Ministerial experience, but he could claim an equal interest in the welfare of the young, and an equal sense of the paramount importance to the nation of their godly upbringing. He rejoiced that Sunday-school teachers had no longer to teach their pupils to read. But a real danger lay alongside our intellectual progress—the danger lest religious training should be squeezed out of the course. He wholly differed from those who believed that the mere culture of the intellect would make a good citizen, and protested against the theory of education which treated the intellect as the only organ which needed cultivation, and starved the conscience, the affections, and the spiritual nature. The whole Sunday-school was a protest that the spiritual nature needed culture as well as the intellectual. He did not deny that science and general literature had a great place in training the mind, but Bible knowledge pre-eminently fitted men for the work of life, as they had evidence of in Scotland. The Bible taught the children to use the language that John Bright spoke and that Mr. Spurgeon preached; and Sunday school work was of use to the State in helping to solve the social problem, by pouring out the balm of its moral disinfectant. Addresses followed by the Rev. E. Armitage, of Rotherham, on "The Success of the School is the responsibility of the Church;" by the Rev. J. T. Briscoe, of Peckham, on "The Spirit of the Age in relation to Sunday School Work;" and by the Rev. J. Ossian Davies, of Tollington-park, on "The Teachers' Individual Responsibility."

The annual meeting of the Christian Evidence Society was held at the Polytechnic Young Men's Christian Institute, Regent-street. The chair was taken by the Archbishop of Canterbury, president of the society, and amongst those present were the Dean of Windsor, Mr. Samuel Smith, M.P., Rev. Dr. Rintoul, Rev. Prebendary Anderson, Mr. W. Powell James, Rev. Professor Redford, and the Rev. Dr. Edgill. The report showed that the income of the society had fallen off during the past twelve months, but that this had been met by diminishing the expenditure. During the past year 387 lectures had been given at sixteen open-air stations. Services of lectures had been given in several churches in connection with the London Church Mission. The Archbishop of Canterbury said that the work of the society was very important. The aim which they should strive to keep in view was not to become a simple missionary society for home missions, but to preserve the character they had set out with, of being a really scientific society—scientific, whether they addressed the educated classes or those intelligent men of the artisan class in whom the spirit of inquiry was manifest. The society ought to set out the direct and constructive evidence that the Scriptures were the result of a direct inspiration not of this world. It was necessary to show the difference between real Christianity and sham Christianity. Whilst attempting to refute modern scientific doctrines, it was also necessary to know something of those doctrines. Just as they might say to an opponent, 'Do not present a caricature of Christianity," so it might be said to them, "Do not present a caricature of evolutionism." Much important work could be done by directing attention to literature and encouraging the reading of suitable books. Amongst these he was glad to see the Bampton Lectures. The system of examination held by the society he thought a very good one. The Dean of Windsor, in moving the adoption of the report, denied that infidelity was increasing and Christianity diminishing in this country, and contended that there was really a striking increase of believers as compared with unbelievers all along the line. The only reason that infidelity was more met with was that the constituency in which it worked was a more enlarged one. Several other speakers addressed the meeting, and the proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the Archbishop for taking the chair.

Under the auspices of the United Kingdom Band of Hope Union, the annual breakfast, on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary, took place last week in Exeter (Lower) Hall, and was largely attended. The report stated that the past year was the thirtieth of the society's existence, and that at no period of its history had the importance of training the young in temperance principles been so fully recognised. The numerical increase was most satisfactory. According to the most recent returns there were in the United Kingdom 11,708 Bands of Hope and other juvenile temperance societies, with a membership of 1,434,930 young people, who received useful instruction. The local branches throughout the country were progressing rapidly, and largely increasing their operations. The Union, by means of its agents and the help of honorary lecturers, had extended its influence to every part of the kingdom. The two provincial agents held 525 meetings, attended by nearly 200,000 persons. In London also the work had been well sustained, 1,087 ordinary and a large number of special meetings having been addressed by the evening agents of the Union. The School Board for London having consented to the delivery of illustrated temperance lectures in Board schools, the society took full advantage of this permission, giving also similar lectures in refuges, orphanages, training ships, and other institutions for the young. A national competitive examination was successfully held, and over 200

prizes distributed; 1,035,914 copies of the society's publications had been sold, and the stock increased by several useful additions. The income from subscriptions amounted to £1,302, a balance of £4 remaining in hand. The Chairman, the Hon. and Rev. Canon LEIGH, M.A., having opened the meeting, Mrs. EVERED POOLE (EVA TRAVERS) delivered an address on "The bright side of our work," in the course of which she referred more particularly to the peculiar fitness of the young for the sort of teaching rendered to them by Bands of Hope. The other speakers included Sir William FOX, K.C.M.G., of New Zealand; Rev. J. R. Lynd, of Belfast; Dr. Edmunds, Mr. W. Noble, and Mr. J. Andrews, of Leeds. A Conference followed in the afternoon, at which a paper was read by Dr. KATE MITCHELL, on "Physiological Temperance for the Young: how best to convey it"; and by the Rev. C. E. ESCREET, M.A., on "The Lad's Ladder; or, How to retain our Senior Members." Mr. S. Morley, M.P., presided in the evening at a meeting under the auspices of the Union, at Exeter Hall. The CHAIRMAN said he rejoiced to know that 1½ million of children were now under Christian training in the principles of total abstinence, and while he would not give up the efforts to reclaim fathers and mothers, he must confess that the chief hope of this movement was to save the children, and he therefore particularly urged all Christians to join in this crusade. Undoubtedly much depression in trade prevailed, but we wasted 130 millions a year on strong drink, which, if turned into the right channel, would set half the mills in the country going at once, and others would soon follow. Although at one time opposed to legislation on this subject, he was now willing to coerce one man to save ten. He expected much from the two millions of new voters, and urged them to see that their representatives were sound upon this question. The Rev. J. R. LYND (minister of the Presbyterian Church, Belfast), delivered an address on "The Child's Place and Power in the Temperance Cause," in the course of which he contended that they could appeal to the State through the children with the hope of being heard in that as in any other way. While we were interested in protecting the women and children in the Soudan, we should be equally careful to protect those at home. There were not only thousands slain at home, but thousands were rendered impotent for good because of strong drink. He was in favour of extending the franchise to women, in order that they might have the chance of potentially protesting against the evils of strong drink. They hoped that Mr. Gladstone might yet crown his glorious life by filling the highest niche of philanthropic fame, by giving the country a legal, or at least a local, prohibition of the sale of strong drink. Dr. RICHARDSON delivered an address on "The Schoolmaster on Alcohol," in which he showed how in many incidents of daily life they could show the children the benefits of abstinence and the evils of strong drink. The Rev. E. G. GANGE (of Broadmead Baptist Chapel, Bristol, in referring to the necessary fight against strong drink, incidentally referred with pleasure to the fact that the threatened fight with Russia had been referred to arbitration, and might God scatter the men who delighted in war. The Rev. NEWMAN HALL (who took the place of Canon Fleming, who was absent through indisposition) also addressed the meeting, and a petition to the House of Commons was adopted, urging the necessity for Sunday closing.

THE COURT.

The Queen and Royal family and the members of Her Majesty's household attended Divine service in the private chapel of Windsor Castle on Sunday. The Very Rev. Randall Davidson, Dean of Windsor, assisted by the Rev. C. J. Vaughan, D.D., Dean of Llandaff and Deputy Clerk of the Closet, officiated. The Very Rev. Dr. Vaughan preached the sermon.

The Queen held a Council on Tuesday at Windsor, at which were present Lord Carlingford, Earl Sydney, Earl Granville, and the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone. The Right Rev. Frederick Temple, D.D., Bishop of London, and Sir John Lambert, K.C.B., were introduced and sworn in members of the Privy Council. Mr. Charles Lennox Peel, C. B., was in attendance as clerk of the Council. The Hon. J. Russell Lowell was introduced to her Majesty's presence by Earl Granville, K.G., and presented his letter of recall; and the Hon. Edward J. Phelps was likewise introduced and presented his credentials as Minister for the United States of America. Sir Spenser St. John, K.C.M.G., was introduced to the Queen by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and kissed hands on his appointment as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Mexico.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne), Princess Beatrice, the Princess of Leiningen, and two children of the Duke of Connaught, left Windsor by special train at 8.20 on Thursday evening for Scotland. A number of spectators assembled along the Castle-hill and High-street to witness the departure of the Court, but the public were not admitted to the station-yard or platform.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Marquis of Lorne has intimated his willingness to accept the Presidency of the Royal Geographical Society, which will become vacant on the retirement of Lord Aberdare at the annual meeting, to be held on June 8.

The number of visitors to the International Inventions Exhibition last week was 97,590, the total since the opening being 192,549.

The Marquis of Lothian presided on Thursday night at the seventieth anniversary festival of the Royal Caledonian Asylum at the Freemasons' Tavern, and was supported by about 200 guests. Since its foundation in 1815, the asylum has maintained and educated 2,500 children of soldiers and sailors who have lost their lives in the service of their country, and at the present time there are 154 children in the institution. The secretary announced subscriptions amounting to £1,200.

The Earl of Huntingdon died on Thursday at his seat, Sharavogue House, Parsonstown. The deceased Earl was for many years Master of the King's County Ormond Foxhounds, and was very popular in the county. The deceased, Francis Power Plantagenet Hastings, was the thirteenth Earl. He was born in 1841, and succeeded his father in 1875. In 1867 in married Mary Anne Wilmot, daughter of the late Colonel the Hon. John Craven Westenra. He is succeeded by his eldest son, Lord Hastings, who was born in 1868.

The Archbishop of Canterbury oponed on Saturday the new infirmary of the Croydon Union. The designs are for six pavilions with 643 beds, but as yet only four pavilions, with 435 beds, have been erected, the total cost of building being £101,000. In the course of an address the Archbishop contended that a great alteration was required in our legislation to encourage thrift and prevent pauperism, as well as to deal with pauperism when it occurred. It was not fair that the hard-working and honest should be taxed to support those who refuse to work. Some law should be devised by which those who were able to help themselves should be compelled to do so.

On Saturday the judges of the Court of Session at Edinburgh appointed Lord Rosebery interim Keeper of the Great Seal for Scotland in room of the late Earl of Selkirk. The Lord President said it was customary for one of the deputy-keepers to be appointed to the office, and wanted to know why the Lord Advocate proposed a departure from the usual method. Mr. Mackay, Advocate Deputy, said the office was an important one, and the Government desired that it should be filled by a person of dignity.

The Earl of Shaftesbury was at Exeter Hall on Tuesday presented by the friends and supporters of ragged schools with a handsomely framed address, signed by a committee of old scholars, and with six copies in oil of Holman Hunt's "Light of the World," with a request that he would "present one to each of his own dear children, to be a constant and happy memory to them of the larger family who claim a filial reverence for the name of their honoured father." In rising to reply to the address, Lord Shaftesbury, who completed his eighty-fourth year on the 28th ult., spoke at considerable length with sufficient strength of voice to be heard over the whole of a room holding probably five hundred persons, and reviewed with gratification his connection for the last forty-one years with the ragged school movement. Echoing a remark made by Mr. H. R. Williams, one of his earliest coworkers in this field, his Lordship freely admitted the great change for the better which had come over London since 1844. This was largely due to ragged schools and kindred agencies, whose establishment he regarded as a special interposition of Providence. Speaking for himself, he declared that he would sooner be president of the Ragged School Union than of the Royal Academy, and he assured his audience that the presentation would be handed to his family, several members of which were present, and treasured by them as precious heirlooms. Canon Fleming, Sir Wm. M'Arthur, M.P., the Bishop of Bedford, Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., Sir Harry Verney, Professor L. Levi, and Mr. Charles Montague and others took part in the proceedings.

Captain Dudley and Stephens, of the yacht *Mignonette*, who were sentenced to a term of imprisonment for having, after the wreck of their vessel, taken the life of the lad Parker, whose remains they ate, were on Wednesday morning released from Holloway Prison.

A resolution was recently passed by the All Saints' Ward (Birmingham) Liberal Association thanking Mr. Labouchere for his opposition to the annuity to Princess Beatrice, and a copy of it was sent to each of the three members for Birmingham, asking them to vote against any sum of money being granted for such purpose. In the course of a reply, dated Llandudno, May 16, Mr. Bright, after remarking that during the reign of the Queen more than £300,000,000 had been wasted in excessive military and naval expenditure, and in unnecessary and unjust wars, against which but a faint protest had been made, even by Liberals and Liberal associations, says:—"If I had been in the House of Commons on Thursday last I should have voted for the grant. I would not have asked the House to cast a shadow over the mind of the Queen, and to tell her that in the later years of her reign Parliament was less generous to her family than in her earlier years. In years past I have spoken in Parliament against the magnitude of some of the grants to the Royal Family, but I could not condemn this present grant on any grounds. I feel that in the course I am now taking, and which I now explain to you, I am acting in accordance with the general character of my countrymen, with whom whatever has a taint of unkindness and meanness is condemned. I feel confident that you will not blame me if I differ from you in this matter, but that you will rather approve of the course I have taken. Let the people look at the millions which are wasted, at the wars which are waged, and at the blood which is shed. This were a wiser policy than to excite themselves over a grant to the youngest daughter of the Queen, whose reign historians will deem illustrious, notwithstanding the blunders and crimes of successive Administrations."

Some further correspondence has taken place between the Home Office and the Council of King's College with reference to the case of the boy Bourdas, who died from injuries received at the hands of some of his schoolfellows at King's College School. The Home Secretary states, in a letter dated the 15th of May, that he gave orders for an inquiry to be instituted by the Public Prosecutor, after waiting for three days for a communication promised by the council. The council's letter reached him after he had made his statement in the House of Commons; but had that letter come into his hands before, it would have in no way altered the course he pursued or the statements he made. The Home Secretary's letter proceeds:—"The Secretary of State remains of the opinion which he expressed in the House of Commons, that such a prolonged postponement of the inquiry was unnecessary and inexpedient, considering that the boys, most of whom resided in London, were accessible; nor, indeed, in the judgment of the Secretary of State, would a mere domestic investigation into the circumstances have been in any event satisfactory. The Secretary of State considers that an attempt to elicit the truth by a tribunal altogether unconnected with the school, and of a character to mark the gravity of the offence, was indispensable in order to prevent the recurrence of such incidents both at this and at other schools. And though it may probably be difficult to get at the facts which it is the interest of so many persons to hold back, the Secretary of State regards it of importance that it should be known in this and other like cases that no effort will be spared by public authority to bring the truth to light." Dr. Wace, principal of King's College, replying on the 16th inst. to this communication, repeats that the council had no intimation of the unfortunate boy having suffering from ill-treatment until after the school had broken up for the holidays, and that they still adhere to their opinion that the only effectual course for ascertaining the facts was to wait until the boys had reassembled. Dr. Wace adds:—"They were earnestly desirous of investigating the matter with the utmost thoroughness, and of promptly taking such action as the result might seem to require; and they are confident that, had they been left free to pursue the course they proposed, they would by this time have been in full possession of the facts. The deep sympathy felt for the poor boy, the aversion from bullying which they believe to prevail in the school, and the remorse of those who have unintentionally inflicted so deep an injury on a schoolfellow and his friends, would in their belief have ensured a satisfactory revelation of the truth. But when a prosecution had been instituted, legal considerations at once arose, by which the authorities were obviously debarred from attempting to elicit admissions by the exertion of that moral influence on which they would otherwise have relied."

A grand military concert was given on Monday at the Hôtel Métropole, Northumberland-avenue, for the benefit of the Egyptian War Fund and the Princess of Wales's branch of the National Aid Society, under the patronage of the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, Prince and Princess Christian, the Duke of Cambridge, Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne), Princess Beatrice, the Duchess of Albany, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, and a long list of distinguished personages. An excellect selection of music was played during the evening by the band of the Mounted Artillery, under the direction of Mr. Lawson; the band of the Coldstream Guards, under Mr. C. Thomas; and the band of the Royal Marine Light Infantry (Portsmouth Division), under Mr. G. Miller. For the first time the reception rooms of the new Hôtel Métropole were thrown open, and the attendance of distinguished visitors was very large. At a quarter to twelve o'clock the Prince and Princess of Wales appeared in the Grand Salon, accompanied by the Duke and Dubhess of Edinburgh and the Countess Spencer. The Princess of Wales, who wore a light coffee-coloured robe with "illusion" waist and sleeves, and a large bunch of white roses in the middle of the corsage, remained for some time in conversation with Lady Jane Taylor, the Duchess of Edinburgh meanwhile talking to Lady Spencer. Great admiration was expressed on all sides at the elegance of the new hotel, adorned, moreover, by profuse floral decorations, to which dignity was lent by the figures of those sons of Anak, the troopers of the Life Guards and Royal Horse Guards, who stood *motionless as statues, booted, helmeted,* and cuirassed, amid the surrounding palms and treeferns.

A drawing-room meeting was held at No. 7, Hyde Park-place, on Tuesday afternoon, for the purpose of founding a league to carry on General Gordon's method of work among the destitute poor. The meeting was largely attended, among others present being her Royal Highness Princess Louise, the Earl and Countess of Aberdeen, Countess Somers, the Earl and Countess of Lathom, Viscount and Viscountess Lewisham, Lord George and Lady Hamilton, Lord and Lady Romilly, Lady Campbell, and Lady A. Noel. Mr. Cyril Flower, M.P., who presided, alluded in his address to the fact that philanthropy did not consist of the giving of alms, but of human sympathy. The meeting was not called to promote equalisation, but moralisation, it being the object of the proposed league to benefit the poorer class, not by charity, but by mixing with them and by personal influence. The speaker then introduced Mr. A. White, who detailed the proposed scheme at length. Halls were to be taken in various parts of London, where those who had the benefit of wealth and education might meet and confer with those who had not. Refining influences were to be brought to bear upon the lower orders, and their condition improved by means of social intercourse. It was to be regretted that use was second nature, and that things which, did they happen in Siam or Assam, would call forth a vast amount of philanthropy, attracted no attention in London, where they were happening every day within a cab fare of where the meeting was being held. There were in East London people living in moral and physical Khartoums. The objects of the league would be to substitute voluntary for paid helpers. There was no appeal for funds. The necessary sum was already found. A hall (Neumeyer Hall) in Hart-street had already been taken, and it was proposed to hold frequent meetings, when music and other entertainments for the people would be given. Offers of assistance, not money, were required, and it was to be hoped that these would be forthcoming. The meeting was subsequently addressed by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, Professor Drummond, the Rev. Mr. Barker, and others, and the proposals for starting the league carried unanimously.

The annual dinner of the members and subscribers to the Newspaper Press Fund took place at Willis's Rooms, St. James's-square, on Saturday evening. Dr. W. H. Russell presided. Admiral Sir H. Keppel responded for the Navy, General Sir C. Dickson for the Army, and Mr. J. F. Garrick, Agent-General for Queensland, for the colonies. Mr. W. R. S. Ralston proposed "The Foreign Ministers," and the Servian Minister (Mr. Niejalovich) briefly responded. The chairman then proposed the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Newspaper Press Fund." He said that since the society was started, he was told, it had distributed £11,911 in grants to pressmen who had been overtaken by misfortune or to the families of those who had died. That such a society was greatly needed was little known to others, but was well known to those who attended the committee-room. Lord Houghton, the president, briefly acknowledged the toast, and asked the company to drink in silence to the memory of St. Leger Herbert, Cameron, and Captain Gordon, the correspondents who had died in the field of the Soudan. The toast was drunk in solemn silence. Mr. Fred. Villiers responded to the toast of "The Visitors." Mr. Edward L. Lawson proposed "The Houses of Parliament," which was briefly responded to by the Earl of Donoughmore for the Lords and by Baron H. de Worms for the Commons. In responding to the toast of his health, which had been proposed by Captain Hozier, the chairman referred to the relations between the military authorities and the newspaper correspondents which had existed in the war in the Soudan. He said that if the correspondents were to speak but with bated breath and whispering humbleness of generals and officers, then, he said, for God's sake let them be wiped away. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Colonel Henry Mapleson. In the course of the evening donations were announced to the amount of nearly £900.

James Lee, who was convicted at the last session of the Central Criminal Court of the murder of Inspector Simmons, an officer of the Essex constabulary, by shooting him with a revolver between Rainham and Romford on the 20th of January last, was executed on Monday morning at Springfield Prison, Chelmsford. The condemned man submitted to the operation of pinioning by Berry, the executioner, without saying a word, and walked firmly to the scaffold. Before the cap was put over his face, the prisoner said, "I thank you, gentlemen, for your kindness to me since I have been in this prison." Afterwards he exclaimed, "Oh, my poor wife! oh, my poor children!" His last words were "I die innocent, mind."

At the Old Bailey on Monday the trial of Burton and Cunningham was concluded. Mr. Justice Hawkins having summed up at great length, the jury retired, and, after fifteen minutes' deliberation, returned into court with a verdict of guilty. Cunningham said he was innocent, and he defied anyone to prove that he had ever caused any explosion in any part of the country. He was willing to go to penal servitude for life or do anything; but, thank God, they could not touch his soul. Burton thanked the jury for their attention to the case, but said that one day his innocence would be established. Whatever sentence was passed he should have to bear. Mr. Justice Hawkins then said the crime of which the prisoners had been convicted was about as bad, cruel, and wicked a crime as could have entered into the heart of man to carry out. It could not be too well known that neither Her Majesty nor her advisers were to be intimidated by such means. The humanity of those charged with the prosecution had prevented their being indicted for high treason, or their lives would have been forfeited. The prisoners would be sentenced to penal servitude for life.

METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL.—The aggregate number of patients relieved during the week ending May 16 was—medical 784, surgical 341; total 1,125, of which 446 were new cases.

"laden with the scent of flowers,
And breath of odorous spring."

SPINNER'S TEA.—A company of merchants are now selling through Spinner & Co. the choicest tea that comes from India and China at 2s. 8d. a pound, in packets only. This is the perfection of tea, and will please the most fastidious.—Agents wanted in everytown and village. For terms, apply to Spinner & Co., 60, Strand, London. —SPINNER & CO., London and Liverpool.

CAUTION.—WATER FILTRATION.—The public are cautioned, before purchasing Filters, to see that what they buy are really water purifiers, and not mere strainers, which latter, although rendering water bright, do not remove the organic and mineral impurities. In the instructions to the local boards of health by order of the Privy Council it has been distinctly stated that the old sponge filters are of no avail for purifying water. These filters are constantly advertised as a new patent, whereas the ONLY FILTERS, containing nothing but the purest ANIMAL CHARCOAL, are those supplied by the LONDON AND GENERAL WATER-PURIFYING COMPANY (Limited), 157, Strand (four doors from Somerset House), W.C.—Read "Water: its Impurities and Purification." Price 6d

BIRTHS.

May 14, at High Ham Rectory, Langport, the wife of the Rev. C. D. CROSSMAN, of a son.

May 15, at 86, Eaton-place, the wife of SIR WALTER PHILLIMORE, of a daughter.

May 15, at the Clock House, Chelsea Embankment, the Lady LILIAN WEMYSS, of a daughter.

May 16, at Knightwick Rectory, Worcestershire, the wife of the Rev. J. BOWSTEAD WILSON, of a daughter.

May 16, at 25, Brechin-place, South Kensington, the Hon. Mrs. T. H. W. PELHAM, of a daughter.

May 18, at Norton-le-Moors Rectory, Stoke-on-Trent, the wife of the Rev. T. H. B. FRARON, of a daughter.

May 19, at Tweedy-road, Bromley, Kent, the wife of the Rev. E. POWYS SKETCHLEY, of a daughter.

May 19, at West Tilbury Rectory, Essex, the wife of the Rev. J. BONAMY DOBREE, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

May 13, at the parish church, Ilkley, EDWARD, fourth son of the late Rev. JNO. SNOWDON, Vicar of Ilkley, to ELLEN, eldest daughter of RICHARD ARMITAGE, of Highfield, Ilkley.

May 14, EDWARD ARTHUR RICHMOND, 1st Lieutenant H.M.S. Valiant, to ADA BLANCHE, daughter of MAJOR-GENERAL LE POER TRENCH.

DEATHS.

May 10, at Clifton, MARY CATHARINE, widow of the Rev. JOHN HAMILTON FORSYTH, younger daughter of the late Lord Edward O'Bryen, aged 68.

May 12, at 17, Hyde-park-square, FRANCES, Dowager Countess of GAINSBOROUGH.

May 12, WILLIAM, eldest son of the Rev. WILLIAM HENRY EDMEADES, of Newstead Court.

May 15, at North Creake Rectory, SARAH DOROTHEA, wife of the Rev. J. N. SIMPKINSON, in the 42nd year of her age.

May 15, at Old Charlton, FREDERICK STAPLETON, only son of the late Admiral BEECHEY, F.R.S., P.R.G.S., aged 54 years.

May 16th, at St. John's-road, Highgate, EVELYN DOUGLAS, eldest beloved son of the late BLANCHARD JERROLD.

May 17, at Ebor House, Stroud-green, N., AMELIA, wife of the Rev. CHARLES OVERTON, Vicar of Cottingham, East Yorkshire, aged 76 years

May 17, at Tunbridge Wells, FREDERICK HAMILTON, second surviving son of ELLEN and the late Rev. RICHARD CATTERMOLE, in the 41st year of his age.

May 19, at 47, Rue du Prince Royal, Brussels, HELENE GABRIELLE daughter of the Rev. CHARLES BYSE, in her 11th year.

LATEST NEWS.

TEHERAN, May 21.

Advices received here from Sarakhs state that owing to the overflow of the Tejend River the direct roads to Merv are impassable. The Governor of Sarakhs received a letter on May 9 from the Russian military commander at Merv, asking permission for some Russian troops to march along the left bank of the Tejend River, which is Persian territory, and over the bridge situated a short distance below Sarakhs. The Governor granted permission for the passage of two battalions to reinforce the garrison of Merv, which was acted upon by the Russian commander.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 21.

The *Svet* states that the Russian Government will grant an annual subsidy of 271,000 roubles to the Amu Daria Steamship Company.

It is stated that Caucasians condemned to exile will in future be sent to the Trans-Caspian provinces instead of Siberia.

SIMLA, May 22.

The British officers who have arrived at Herat have been warmly welcomed in that city. They report the fortifications of the place to be stronger than was supposed.

ROME, May 22.

Unfavourable news has arrived from Massowah. Typhus fever is spreading among the troops there, and two officers and ten men have died. This news has created a painful impression here, and some papers advocate the immediate recall of the troops.

PARIS, May 22.

The Société de Geographie has received disquieting news from the Upper Congo, which goes to show that the large Mahomedan populations, probably excited by the success of the Mahdi's rising in the Soudan, are determined to assert their claims to the centre of Africa.

The immediate occasion for the Arab movement was given by the despatch of one of Mr. Stanley's convoys, richly laden with ivory, under the command of M. Armlot, an agent of the International Association. Instead of descending the river to Stanley's Pool and Vivi, the convoy proceeded, under the protection of Tipu-Taib, a powerful Arab chief, eastwards to reach the coast at Zanzibar.

The proofs of the wealth of ivory in the interior excited to such a degree the cupidity of the Arabs, that Tipu Taib immediately collected a large army for the purpose of conquering the Congo country, and is now reported to have advanced at the head of 3,000 Arabs well supplied with modern rifles, pillaging and massacring. The station at Arawini has been sacked and destroyed, and the negro population are flying for their lives. Tipu Taib claims the Congo as the territory of the Sultan of Zanzibar, and proclaims his intention of suppressing all opposition.

The country round Lake Tanganyika is the centre of the movement, but the Mohammedan races which lie in a belt across Africa are liable to be seized by the new fanaticism, which also promises to bring them wealth and power.

The Station and River of Arawini is about 1deg. north of the Equator, and about 23deg. east longitude.

It was rumoured in the House of Commons yesterday that representations had been made by the Russian Government with reference to the movement of Afghan troops to the frontier. M. de Giers is stated to have protested strongly against this movement, as being in the nature of a menace, and calculated to provoke a repetition of the Penjdeh incident. The points of contention between the two Governments are, the *Standard* says, believed to be now four in number—the demand of Russia to have an agent at Cabul, the question of the evacuation of Zulfikar by the Russian troops, the inclusion of Maruchak within the line of the Afghan frontier, and lastly the general defensive preparations of the Ameer, which are regarded by the Russians as partaking of a warlike character.

The *Daily News* is enabled to state that the negotiations, which on our side are in a great measure in the hands of the Secretary of State for India, Lord Kimberley, are making favourable progress. There is at present no reason to suppose that any irreconcilable differences of opinion will arise between the two Governments.

Information forwarded by the Indian Government represents the Ameer Abdurrahman as profoundly depressed by the success of the Russians, and by our failure to restrain their aggression. With no personal hold on Western Afghanistan, he is convinced of his powerlessness to resist invasion, and seems more than half disposed to buy off Russia, rather than rely on our promises to protect him. Trustworthy reports from Cabul state that the Ameer is preparing for emergencies by despatching his best troops and armaments to Afghan Turkestan, where he hopes the loyalty and affection of his own people will prove a sufficient safeguard. It is also known, beyond doubt, that the Ameer is sending his treasure to Faizabad, the chief town of the province of Badakshan.

The Canadian Government has ordered General Middleton to conduct a campaign against the hostile Indians, and to crush them. He is now at Prince Albert, and he will soon march to Battleford to join Colonel Otter and begin offensive movements. The Government will this week send orders that Riel shall be handed over to the civil authorities for trial, but the place of trial is not yet selected. Riel is said to be undoubtedly an American citizen, but no complications are expected to arise from his punishment for leading the recent outbreak.

The result of the County Antrim Election was announced in the County Court House in Belfast yesterday:—Sinclair (L), 3,971; O'Neill (C), 3,832; majority for Sinclair, 139.

The ceremony of unveiling a portrait medallion of the late Mr. Peter Squire in the Pharmaceutical Society's house in Bloomsbury-square was on Monday performed by Sir Spencer Wells, Bart., in the presence of a large gathering.

We are informed that the tenders for the construction of the National Agricultural Hall have been delivered, and that Messrs. Lucas and Son have obtained the contract.

RESERVATION OF THE SACRAMENT.

Mr. Carter of Clewer, writing on this subject observes that the Bishop of Manchester must know that Reservation for the sick is our true inheritance in the first Reformed Prayer-book, and that Bishops of highest note in later years have sanctioned it when occasion arose, lest any should die uncommunicated.

The Canon next remarks that the Bishop of Manchester must know that those who hold the Objective Presence in the Blessed Sacrament utterly reject the idea of "localisation," as inapplicable to the Divine Mystery, and that it is condemned among all theologians. The late Bishop Hamilton did not regard this doctrine as "speculative Gnosis," or as mere "theory." He certainly did his best to "impress on the mind" of his diocese "the Objective Presence of Christ's Body and Blood in the Sacrament of the Altar." He did this at great cost to himself, not counting even life dear to him, so that he might establish the truth he loved, and this particular doctrine formed the central feature of his great Charge.

It is true that the Reservation for the sick has been regarded as a witness to the Objective Presence. The Bishop of Manchester may object to it on this account, as he does to the ceremonial which expresses the doctrine to "the senses." But to condemn Reservation for the sick is to go against the witness of the undivided Church from the age of the Apostles.

On the same subject the Dean of Manchester says:—

"What I have described and justified—namely, the immediate carrying of the 'Consecrated Gifts' direct from the Lord's Table on the Lord's-day to one or more sick persons, in urgent or chronic sickness, being easily accessible, whether lawful and expedient or not, is, strictly speaking, not '*Reservation*' at all in the sense lately under discussion. And whatever else may be said of it, or against it, it is, at any rate, not a 'novel' practice."

THE REVISED NEW TESTAMENT.

The Rev. E. Miller, in a letter to the *Guardian*, reminds Mr. Shilleto that the Dean of Chichester has actually published the result of his collation, not of the three chief only, but of the five oldest, uncials, and that he spent "five and a half years" in this laborious task.

As to the alleged substantial agreement of the Vatican, Sinaitic, and Alexandrian MSS., it is acknowledged by the teachers of both schools, that in the Gospels the Alexandrian is a fair exponent of the "traditional text" as opposed to the text of the Vatican and Sinaitic. As to the internal evidence of these MSS. to their own authenticity, "their wonderful pruning of manifest additions, glosses, and excrescences," here doctors disagree. Kuenen and Cobet twenty-five years ago, and Dr. Michelsen recently, give a different account, and as regards the first and chief of these MSS., Tischendorf and Vercellone expressed opinions similar to theirs.

When people ascribe so very much importance to the superior antiquity of their two favourites—the Vatican and Sinaitic, they must remember that the Alexandrian and Parisian are not much younger, that Catholic antiquity all but ostracised the Vatican and Sinaitic, which, indeed, as is generally admitted, were produced in Arian times, and that the testimony of Fathers, versions, and virtually of lectionaries, reaches further back than that of any manuscripts of the New Testament Scriptures.

The school of Lachmann, though the more dominant at present, does not monopolise the teaching of this day upon the Greek text of the New Testament. And greater attention should be drawn to the arguments advanced by Dr. Scrivener and Dean Burgon (who differ no more than is the case every day with individuals who think mainly alike), and also by Canon Cook. Their contention must be more adequately dealt with than by articles in magazines, however clever, that appeared before most of them were published, or by the pamphlet of the two Revisers, of which the same must be said.

DEATH OF VICTOR HUGO.

Victor Hugo died in Paris at half-past one o'clock yesterday afternoon, at the advanced age of eighty-three, having been born at Besançon, Feb. 26, 1802. A Reuter's telegram says that on the Senate assembling in the afternoon M. Leroyer, the President, addressed the House as follows:—"Victor Hugo, who for the last sixty years has been the admiration of France and the world, has entered into immortality. His glory belongs to no party, but to all." M. Leroyer then proposed an immediate adjournment, in token of mourning. In the Chamber of Deputies, M. Brisson stated that the Government regarded the loss of Victor Hugo as an event to be mourned by the whole nation, and moved that the funeral obsequies should be conducted at the expense of the State. The Premier's words were received with unanimous applause, and the House immediately adjourned as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The *Daily News* says:—"We have reason to believe that a difference of opinion which might have important results has developed itself in the Cabinet on the subject of the partial renewal of the Irish Crimes Act. There is a small but influential section of the Cabinet which is opposed to the renewal of the Act unless accompanied by a large measure of local government. With respect to reports current in the House of Commons on Wednesday that Mr. Chamberlain and Sir C. Dilke do not view with favour the promised introduction of a Bill dealing with the purchase clauses of the Irish Land Act, we believe they are to some extent true. But objection is taken, not against the principles of the Bill, but to the precedence given to it. The two right hon. gentlemen are, we understand, agreed in the view that the first thing to be done is to extend to Ireland a liberal measure of local government. It is possible that contending influences in the Cabinet on the subject of the Crimes Act may be united by partially renewing the Act for one year, thus practically leaving to the new Parliament the duty of deciding whether Coercion Acts shall form part of the regular administration of affairs in Ireland."

SOCIETY.

We hear that a marriage is arranged between Lord Norreys, eldest son of the Earl of Abingdon, and Miss Carr Glyn, daughter of the late Admiral the Hon. Henry Carr Glyn.

A marriage will shortly take place between Captain B. Drysdale Möller, 18th Hussars, and Miss Sophie Peel, youngest daughter of the late Captain Spencer Peel, Royal Scots, and niece of the late Mr. Spencer Steers, of Halewood, Lancashire.

Also between Mr. Charles Lacaita, only son of Sir James Lacaita, K.C.M.G., and Mary Annabel, daughter of Sir F. H. Doyle, Bart., which is fixed to take place on June 5, at St. George's Church.

Also between Mr. H. Ellison Acklom, youngest son of the late Captain Acklom, 28th Regiment, and Miss Booth, eldest daughter of the late Henry W. Booth, Esq., and niece of Sir Charles Booth, Bart.

At St. George's Church, Hanover-square, on Thursday, the Hon. Alfred Lyttelton, youngest son of the late Lord Lyttelton, was married to Laura, fourth daughter of Mr. Charles Tennant, M.P. for Peebles-shire. Numerous relatives and friends assembled, among them being the Prime Minister and Mrs. Gladstone and the Misses Mary and Helen Gladstone, Theresa Countess of Shrewsbury, Viscountess Chetwynd and Hon. Miss Chetwynd, Count and Countess de Florian, Lord and Lady Ribblesdale, Lord and Lady Edward Cavendish, Lord Houghton, Lord Acton and Hon. Mary Acton, Lord Gerard, Lord Napier and Hon. Miss Napier, Lord Charles Russell, Lady Lyttelton, Lord Mount-Temple, Lady Elcho, Lady Henry Gordon Lennox, Lady Alfred Paget and Miss Paget, Lady Alison and Miss Alison, Lady Cowell Stepney and Miss Stepney, Lady Conyers and Hon. Miss Lane Fox, Lady Bailey and Miss Bailey, Lady Edward Somerset, Lady Archibald Campbell and Mrs. Gordon, Lady Brett, Lady Hothfield and Miss Strachey, Lady Miller and Miss Miller, Lady Hayter, Hon. St. John Brodrick, M.P., and Lady Hilda Brodrick, Hon. R. H. Lyttelton, Colonel Hon. N. G. Talbot, Hon. Mrs. Edward Talbot, Hon. Mrs. J. G. Talbot, Hon. Rowland Leigh, Hon. Ronald Marsham, Hon. Algernon Grosvenor, Hon. C. Stanhope, Hon. Mrs. Hallyburton Campbell, Hon. Mark Napier, Hon. Mrs. Percy Wyndham, Hon. General Feilding and Mrs. and Miss Feilding, Major the Hon. John Napier, Hon. Mrs. Thomas Bruce and Miss Bruce, Hon. Mrs. Douglas Pennant and Misses Douglas Pennant, Hon. Duncan and Mrs. Mercer-Henderson and Miss Mercer-Henderson, Hon. Miss Henniker, Mr. Chamberlain, M.P., Sir E. Colebrooke, M.P., and Miss Colebrooke, Sir Charles Forster, M.P., and Lady Forster, Sir Walter and Lady Caroline Stirling, Sir William and Lady Des Vœux, Sir James R. Fergusson, the Lord Advocate and Hon. Mrs. Balfour, and many others. The bridegroom was accompanied by his brother, the Hon. and Rev. Edward Lyttelton, as best man, and the eight bridesmaids were Miss Margaret Tennant, sister of the bride; the Hon. Barbara Lister, niece of the bride; Hon. Sybella Lyttelton, sister of the bridegroom; Miss Talbot and Miss May Talbot, nieces of the bridegroom; Miss Gordon Duff, Miss Nan Tennant, and Miss Wickham. The bride arrived shortly after half-past eleven with her father, who conducted her to the altar and subsequently gave her away. The Hon. Thomas Lister, nephew of the bride, acted as page. The Rev. Henry Scott Holland officiated, assisted by the Hon. and Rev. Arthur Lyttelton, M.A., master of Selwyn College, Cambridge. On leaving the church the wedding party proceeded to Mr. and Mrs. Tennant's residence in Grosvenor-square, where breakfast was served. Mr. Gladstone proposed the only toast, "The Happiness of the Young Married Couple."

The marriage of Mr. Oscar F. Armytage, second son of G. Armytage, Esq., Queen's-gate, with Miss Maud Andrew, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Richardson Andrew, of Prestbury Hall, Cheshire, took place recently at Bucklebury, Berks. The Rev. T. W. Watts, vicar, stepfather of the bride, officiated, assisted by the Rev. H. Nell Loring and the Rev. F. Ll. Lloyd, vicar of Aldworth, Berks. The bride, accompanied by her mother, arrived at the church at 11.30, and was conducted to the chancel by her brother, Mr. Andrew, who gave her away. Her dress was a petticoat of white satin covered with Brussels lace, the bodice and train of white broché velvet, ornamented with bouquets of orange blossom, wreath of the same flowers, and tulle veil fastened with diamond star and crescent, the gift of the bridegroom. Her other ornaments, a diamond star, arrow, and crescent, were all gifts of near relatives, and her bouquet was of the choicest white flowers. Her train was carried by a little girl, niece of the bridegroom, dressed in cardinal plush and coffee lace, and large Gainsborough hat to match. The five bridesmaid's dresses were of pink plush and satin Merveilleux, wreaths, and tulle veils, the latter fastened on the left shoulder with a bunch of flowers. Each was presented with a gold and pearl lace pin, and carried bouquets, both gifts of the bridegroom. Mr. Harry Armytage acted as best man. Tasteful arches were erected in the vicarage grounds. A large party of guests were entertained at the vicarage by the Rev. T. W. and Mrs. Watts. Later in the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Oscar F. Armytage left for London *en route* for Killarney. The bride's travelling dress was dark blue vicuna and plush, jacket and bonnet to match. The presents were numerous and valuable.

On the 18th inst. was celebrated, at St. Matthias's, Church, South Kensington, the marriage of Mr. Alfred Berlyn, to Annie, daughter of the late Mr. G. Washington Close, of New York, and stepdaughter of Mr. Bernard H. Becker. In consequence of the recent death of the bridegroom's father the wedding was strictly private. The bride was attired in a travelling dress of electric-blue cashmere, over a petticoat of ottoman silk of the same colour, with a hat to match, trimmed with pale pink and terra-cotta feathers. The church was decorated with white flowers and banners. Immediately after the service Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Berlyn left the church, amid the customary shower of rice, for Eastbourne.

The Marchioness of Salisbury's third reception, held at the family residence in Arlington-street, on the 13th inst., was more numerously attended than the two previous parties. Among the company were the German Ambassador and Countess Olga Münster, the Spanish, Portuguese, Swedish, Persian, and Japanese (with Mdme. Kawasé) Ministers, the Greek Chargé d'Affaires, Count and Countess Lützow, Prince Musurus Bey, Count and Countess de Florian, the Duke and Duchess of Westminster, the Marquis and Marchioness of Headfort and Lady Adelaide Taylour, Maria Marchioness of Ailesbury, the Earl of Kenmare, the Earl of Feversham and Lady Helen Duncombe, the Earl and Countess of Darnley, Earl and Countess Stanhope, the Countess of Malmesbury and Miss Phillips, the Earl and Countess of Galloway and Miss Tollemache, Countess Sondes, Ladies Constance and Lily Miles and Miss Astley, the Earl and Countess of Romney, the Earl and Countess of Egmont, the Countess of Carnarvon and Lady Winifred Herbert, the Countess of Mexborough and Ladies Savile, the Countess of Jersey, Viscount and Viscountess Boyne and Hon. Miss Hamilton Russell, Viscountess Hood and Hon. Miss Hood, Viscount Hawarden and Hon. Misses Maude, Viscount Gage, Viscountess Chetwynd and Hon. Miss Chetwynd, Viscount and Viscountess Molesworth and Hon. Gwen Molesworth, Viscount and Viscountess Curzon, Lord and Lady Wimborne, Lord and Lady Fitzgerald and Miss Geraldine Fitzgerald, Lord and Lady Colchester, Lord and Lady Lamington, Lord and Lady Ellenborough, Lady Emily Peel and Miss Peel, Lord and Lady Fitzwarrine Chichester and Miss Chichester, Lady Arundell, Lady Augustus Hervey, Lord and Lady Romilly, Lord Gerard, and many others. Many handsome toilets to be seen. The Duchess of Westminster was in rich black satin, with diamond ornaments; the Duchess of Manchester wore cream satin draped with lace, and splendid diamonds; the Countess of Malmesbury's handsome dress was of pale blue satin, with train of flowered brocade; Countess Stanhope looked well in cream satin tastefully trimmed with lace, and diamond ornaments; the Countess of Romney wore a handsome dress of pale yellow and white brocaded satin trimmed with lace, and diamond ornaments; Viscountess Barrington was in black; Viscountess Hood wore rich ruby brocade, with a feather to match in her hair; Lady Seymour's dress was of beautiful pale pink flowered satin draped with lace, and she wore a pink feather in her hair, and carried a lovely bouquet; Lady Sarah Spencer Churchill was in pale blue satin and brocade; Hon. Lady Cadogan wore black; Lady Constance Campbell was in deep cream coloured satin and lace; the Hon. Mrs. Hallyburton Campbell's dress was of pale azalea pink silk; the Hon. Violet Cochrane Baillie looked well in ruby velvet over a skirt of cream lace; Mrs. Watney's dress was of dark green velvet with tablier of tulle embroidered in coloured jet.

The Archbishop of Canterbury entertained at dinner at Lambeth Palace on Tuesday evening the Archbishop of York, the Archbishop of Dublin, the Bishops of London, Durham, Winchester, Bath and Wells, Carlisle, Chester, Chichester, Gloucester and Bristol, Hereford, Lichfield, Llandaff, Manchester, Newcastle, Oxford, St. Asaph, Southwell, Truro, Derry, Brechin, Dover, Bedford, Colchester, Melanesia, Pretoria, Antigua, and Victoria (Hongkong), Bishop Perry, and the Dean of Windsor, Archdeacon Harrison, Canon Cadman, Canon Hole, Canon Smith, Canon Elwyn, Dr. Wace, the Rev. C. B. Hutchinson, and the Rev. Montagu Fowler (chaplains).

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

NEW ACROSTIC RULES.

In future, instead of the Quarterly Prize, a Prize of One Guinea will be given every month for the successful solution of the Acrostics that appear in the *John Bull*.

The present monthly competition will include the Acrostics that are given on May 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30.

At the end of the month, in case competitors tie, they will proceed to guess off the ties, being debarred from prize-winning in the fresh monthly competition so long as they are engaged in contesting the ties.

No competitor can gain more than two Monthly Prizes in the course of the year.

All solutions must be forwarded not later than the Monday week following the appearance of the Acrostic, addressed to the ACROSTIC EDITOR of the *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street, E.C., and signed by a pseudonym of not inordinate length.

Alternatives to the number of three are allowed.

All solutions received are acknowledged, whether correct or not.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 2.
(THIRD MONTH, TENTH YEAR.)

1. P ari S
2. E dit H
3. A lexandr A
4. C a M
5. E v E

Answers have been received from Zyx, Bertha, Godiva, Pen, G.C.H., Kildale, O.R., Peewit, Cymro, Sengar, Zulus, Katydid, Iris, James Crow, Etak, Culverin, Whaup, Evelina, The Owl, Mac, Pansy, M.A.E.B., Spero, Land o' Nod, Ketha, Vertumnus, Hampton Courtier, Two Countesses, Paddy, L.E.L., Chelmsford, Felix, Conjecture, Roslyn, Kiku, Noryb, Pegasus, Viz, Quandary, Sociable, Asphodel, Hadji, Sleepy, Noremac, S.O.F., Bios, Edith S., Waddles, and Thal.

TIES FOR MARCH.—Beam, Persevere, and Todcat have all correctly answered the above Acrostic, and remain competing.

PRIZE FOR APRIL.—This has been won by
Mrs. Townsend (Felix),
Cordangan Manor,
Tipperary.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 4.
(THIRD MONTH, TENTH YEAR.)

PROEM.

Which of the two shall Childers take
The money that he wants to make?

1.

Of wealth, of noise, and of smoke there is more
Within sound of its bells that in Rome of yore.

2.

On a Greek river's banks victory they won,
In a quarrel bequeathed from father to son.

3.

"Ye distant spires, ye antique towers,
That crown the watery glade,
Where grateful science still adores
Her Henry's holy shade."

4.

"The Niobe of nations! There she stands,
Childless and crownless in her voiceless woe."

Printed by E. D. MADDICK and Co., 1, CRANE COURT, Fleet-street, and Published for the Proprietor, at the Office, No. 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street.—Saturday, May 23, 1885.